



Risk Checklist
December 2022

Business Continuity Planning Checklist

Weather events. Pandemic. Cyberattacks.

These are all potential reasons to enact a business continuity plan, and it is critical that your institution has a plan in place and is ready to execute it as needed.

Follow this checklist to mitigate business risk and continue serving accountholders during an unplanned event.

Business Continuity Planning Checklist

- Build response measures that will address any impact to accountholder needs; such as financial, product, communication, and service support needs, including:
 - Identify communication strategies, messaging, and channels for affected or potentially impacted accountholders
 - How accountholders can reach out for support
 - Any action that is required of accountholders to keep themselves or their information secure
 - Warnings about fraudulent communications or potential phishing scams
- Map out plans to address any potential scenario that would affect your core business or accountholder service operations.
- Proactively consult with staff members, suppliers, and service providers regarding how you will tap them for recovery assistance, should you need it.
- Identify facilities, systems, and procedures that will allow for the continuance of critical operations in the event a large number of employees become unavailable for a prolonged period.
- Make plans for purchasing or renting the equipment needed to continue running your business.
- Define which roles can operate out of alternative workspaces to continue operating your business and serving your accountholder if one or more offices close.
- Identify contingency plans to address any potential damage caused by a potential disaster. These should include:
 - Building damage
 - Power outages
 - Road closures
 - Alarm system or building security failures
 - Phone or internet malfunctions
 - Supplier shipment issues
- Evaluate systems for any security breaches, documenting and reporting any common points of compromise immediately.

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- Build plans that specifically address pandemic response and recovery procedures. These should include:
 - Multi-phased preparation and response procedures that align with the severity of the pandemic exposure – i.e. plans for when outbreak first hits the nation, versus plans for when a member of your staff contracts the virus
 - Exposure monitoring procedures
 - Employee education materials or programs
 - Internal and external communication strategies
 - Vendor contingency plans
 - Rules for employee hygiene
 - Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) requirement guidelines and corresponding supplies for employees and branch visitors
- Develop a committee to plan, manage, and oversee continuity plans.
- Develop an oversight committee to review plans year-over-year and ensure policies, standards, and procedures to sustain compliance and effectiveness.
- Define a clear chain of command and authority to employ, clearly stating decision makers if an event occurs.
- Keep an employee roster with employees' addresses, phone numbers, or non-work email addresses.
- Develop procedures for safely backing up print and electronic data in case computers or servers are destroyed.
- Develop procedures for documenting intellectual data. Share with employees on a regular basis.
- Test recovery and response plans to ensure that the practices and capabilities will work effectively and allow critical operations to continue.
- Share contingency plans with staff, making everyone understands what to do and where to go in the event of a disaster or pandemic.
- Invest in comprehensive bond coverage to protect your financial institution from expected losses.

Contact us for support with developing your business continuity plan:
alliedsolutions.net/contact-us.