


FITSP-Operator Exam Objectives



A Breakdown of the
Exam Objectives
Measured on the
FITSP Operator Exam

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1. FITSP-Operator Exam Objectives Outline

This section provides the objectives that are measured by the FITSP-Operator exam. The purpose here is to provide both the objectives as well as the schema framework to easily identify where an exam objective should fit within the schema.

Exam #4

Topic #1 - Access Control

- Objective #1 – Configure the limitation of information system access to authorized users, processes acting on behalf of authorized users, or devices (including other information systems) and to the types of transactions and functions that authorized users are permitted to exercise.

Topic #2 - Audit and Accountability

- Objective #1 – Enable the creation, protection, and retention of information system audit records to the extent needed to enable the monitoring, analysis, investigation, and reporting of unlawful, unauthorized, or inappropriate information system activity.
- Objective #2 – Facilitate elements to ensure that the actions of individual information system users can be uniquely traced to those users so they can be held accountable for their actions.

Topic #3 - Awareness and Training

- Objective #1 – Implement elements to ensure that managers and users of organizational information systems are made aware of the security risks associated with their activities and of the applicable laws, Executive Orders, directives, policies, standards, instructions, regulations, or procedures related to the security of organizational information systems.
- Objective #2 – Execute elements to ensure that organizational personnel are adequately trained to carry out their assigned information security-related duties and responsibilities.

Topic #4 - Configuration Management

- Objective #1 – Facilitate the establishment and maintenance of baseline configurations and inventories of organizational information systems (including hardware, software, firmware, and documentation) throughout the respective system development life cycles.
- Objective #2 – Enable the establishment and enforcement of security configuration settings for information technology products employed in organizational information systems.

Topic #5 - Contingency Planning

- Objective #1 – Execute the establishment, maintenance, and effectiveness of implementation plans for emergency response, backup operations, and post-disaster recovery for organizational information systems to ensure the availability of critical information resources and continuity of operations in emergency situations.

Topic #6 - Identification and Authentication

- Objective #1 – Enable elements to ensure the identification of information system users, processes acting on behalf of users, or devices and authenticate (or verify) the identities of those users, processes, or devices, as a prerequisite to allowing access to organizational information systems.

Topic #7 - Incident Response

- Objective #1 – Facilitate the establishment of an operational incident handling capability for organizational information systems that includes adequate preparation, detection, analysis, containment, recovery, and user response activities.
- Objective #2 – Enable the tracking, documentation, and reporting of incidents to appropriate organizational officials or authorities.

Topic #8 - Maintenance

- Objective #1 – Facilitate the performability of periodic and timely maintenance on organizational information systems.
- Objective #2 – Enable the provision of effective controls on the tools, techniques, mechanisms, and personnel used to conduct information system maintenance.

Topic #9 - Media Protection

- Objective #1 – Enable the protection of information system media, both paper and digital.
- Objective #2 – Configure the limitation of access to information or information system media to authorized users.
- Objective #3 – Facilitate the sanitization or destruction of information system media before disposal or release for reuse.

Topic #10 - Personnel Security

- Objective #1 – Enable elements to ensure that individuals occupying positions of responsibility within organizations (including third-party service providers) are trustworthy and meet established security criteria for those positions.

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- Objective #2 – Implement elements to ensure that organizational information and information systems are protected during and after personnel actions such as terminations and transfers.
 - Objective #3 – Operate the employment of formal sanctions for personnel failing to comply with organizational security policies and procedures.

Topic #11 - Physical and Environmental Protection

- Objective #1 – Configure the limitation of physical access to information systems, equipment, and the respective operating environments to authorized individuals.
- Objective #2 – Operate the protection of the physical plant and supporting infrastructure for information systems.
- Objective #3 – Enable the provision of supporting utilities for information systems.
- Objective #4 – Execute the protection of information systems against environmental hazards.
- Objective #5 – Facilitate the provision of appropriate environmental controls in facilities containing information systems.

Topic #12 - Planning

- Objective #1 – Facilitate the development, documentation, periodic update, and implementation of security plans for organizational information systems that describe the security controls in place or planned for the information systems and the rules of behavior for individuals accessing the information systems.

Topic #13 - Program Management

- Objective #1 – Execute elements that ensure that security processes and controls are compatible and consistent with an organization's information security program.

Topic #14 - Risk Assessment

- Objective #1 – Execute the periodic assessment of risk to organizational operations (including mission, functions, image, or reputation), organizational assets, and individuals, resulting from the operation of organizational information systems and the associated processing, storage, or transmission of organizational information.

Topic #15 - Security Assessments and Authorization

- Objective #1 – Execute the periodic assessment of security controls in organizational information systems to determine if the controls are effective in their application.

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- Objective #2 – Enable the development and implementation of plans of action designed to correct deficiencies and reduce or eliminate vulnerabilities in organizational information systems.
 - Objective #3 – Facilitate the authorization of operation of organizational information systems and any associated information system connections.
 - Objective #4 – Execute the monitoring of information system security controls on an ongoing basis to ensure the continued effectiveness of the controls.

Topic #16 - System and Communication Protection

- Objective #1 – Execute the monitoring, controlling, and protection of organizational communications (i.e., information transmitted or received by organizational information systems) at the external boundaries and key internal boundaries of the information systems.
- Objective #2 – Execute the employment of architectural designs, software development techniques, and systems engineering principles that promote effective information security within organizational information systems.

Topic #17 - System and Information Integrity

- Objective #1 – Enable the identification, reporting, and correction of information and information system flaws in a timely manner.
- Objective #2 – Facilitate the provision of protections from malicious code at appropriate locations within organizational information systems.
- Objective #3 – Configure the monitoring of information system security alerts and advisories and take appropriate actions in response.

Topic #18 - System and Services Acquisition

- Objective #1 - Enable sufficient resources to adequately protect organizational information systems.
- Objective #2 - Execute system development life cycle processes that incorporate information security considerations.
- Objective #3 - Facilitate software usage and installation restrictions.
- Objective #4 – Execute elements that ensure that third-party providers employ adequate security measures to protect information, applications, and/or services outsourced from the organization.