The Department of Homeland Security has established a department wide IT security program and organization based on the following Executive orders, public laws, and national policy.

- Public Law 107-296, Homeland Security Act of 2002
- The National Security Act of 1947, dated July 26, 1947
- Department of State 12 FAM 500, Information Security, October 1, 1999.
- Executive Order 12656, Assignment of Emergency Preparedness Responsibilities, dated November 18, 1988, as amended
- Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations 1236, Management of Vital Records, revised as of July 1, 2000
- FEMA Federal Preparedness Circular 66, Test, Training and Exercise (TT&E) for Continuity of Operations (COOP), dated April 30, 2001
• Various National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Special Publications, (e.g., 800-16, 800-26, 800-34, 800-37, 800-50, 800-53) and Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) (e.g., FIPS 199).

• Various DHS Management Directives (e.g., MD 0470.1, MD 4400.1, MD 4500.1, MD 4600.1, MD 11042.1, MD 11050.2)