

Your Credit Union and FS-ISAC

Credit unions play a critical role in serving their members' shared financial needs. Members of credit unions expect their institution to secure and protect private information. The obligation to ensure the confidentiality, integrity and availability of member data must be maintained despite rising cyberthreats, changing technologies and strict regulatory compliance. All credit unions share this obligation, regardless of asset size, number of members or number of branches. Like credit unions, the Financial Services Information Sharing and Analysis Center (FS-ISAC) exists to help address the shared cybersecurity challenges that all financial institutions face. With nearly 7,000 financial institution members, you can feel confident that FS-ISAC understands the value of strength in sharing.

Sharing in Action

FS-ISAC can be thought of as a virtual "neighborhood watch." Similar to a group of homeowners who monitor activity in a neighborhood and share suspicious activity with each other and local police, member financial institutions of FS-ISAC monitor the activity they see on their networks and in their local communities daily and voluntarily share timely information with each other via mailing lists, working groups, member meetings the Security Operations Center and other secure channels of communication. As homeowners of a neighborhood take precautions based on the shared information they receive so can your security personnel take precautions based on the actionable intelligence your credit union receives from the FS-ISAC community.



In the FS-ISAC community, when one financial institution detects something suspicious, it makes other institutions aware of the threat, often within minutes of it happening. Other institutions can then take actions to prevent attacks and protect their organizations and member data. No other service offers such timely, actionable data on real-world cyberthreats. This is a powerful community defense, built on the cooperative model.

Sharing information about threats, vulnerabilities and incidences helps community institutions better protect sensitive consumer information.

Benefits for Credit Unions

Right away, your credit union will benefit from:

- **Real-time, peer-to-peer sharing** to request cybersecurity guidance, advice or experience and the opportunity to assist other community institution members with recommendations or expertise;
- **Situational awareness and alerts** of new physical and cybersecurity threats, incidents and challenges and the information you need to protect your organization;
- **Multiple methods to report** openly or anonymously when your organization is under attack;
- **Industry best practices, reliable solutions and educational training programs** to enhance your cybersecurity initiatives;
- **Increased protection** against cyber-attacks, thereby reducing enterprise risk and subsequent monetary loss; and
- **Exercises** to test capabilities and collaborate with peers and others.

Membership in a community of like-minded information security professionals dedicated to the protection of member information.

Meet Regulatory Expectations

Participation in FS-ISAC improves the cybersecurity defenses and incident response capabilities of community institutions as well as meets compliance with regulatory requirements for information sharing. In 2014, the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council (FFIEC) issued a statement recommending that “financial institutions of all sizes participate in the FS-ISAC as part of their process to identify, respond to and mitigate cybersecurity threats and vulnerabilities.” In 2016, the FFIEC issued additional guidance urging financial institutions to “incorporate information sharing with other financial institutions and service providers into risk mitigation strategies to identify, respond to and mitigate cybersecurity threats and incidents.” The National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) also recommends participation in information sharing forums on cyberthreats and provides details on FS-ISAC.

Access to Tools and Resources

Additionally, your credit union has access to first-rate products and services that assist in protecting your credit union and member base from cyber-risks and physical threats, such as:

- *Weekly Risk Summary Report*
- Operational and technical risk mitigation toolkits
- *FS-ISAC Daily Summary*
- Portal access including: anonymous incident submission, document library and a member directory
- Education and awareness training
- Community Institution Council mail list
- *Monthly Executive Brief*
- Annual CAPS exercises, access to table-top exercises and crisis playbooks
- Live events, mentoring and networking with your peers

About FS-ISAC

Established in 1999 to improve the resilience of the financial sector, FS-ISAC is a member-owned, non-profit organization that enables members to share information, analyze threats, respond to cyber and physical threats and attacks as well as access to industry-specific events, activities and educational resources. Nearly 7,000 financial institutions including more than 3,000 community banks and credit unions have joined FS-ISAC to:

- Gain actionable insights into the latest security threats, vulnerabilities, trends and technologies;
- Gather additional details about specific attacks in a timely manner;
- Learn about other community institution experiences and mitigation strategies through anonymous and attributed submissions; and
- Remain current with federal, state and local government agencies, regulators and law enforcement priorities while protecting, securing and mitigating risk from unauthorized access and misuse of confidential information.

Gain the full value of information sharing and our services by becoming a member. To learn more about membership levels and pricing email marketing@fsisac.com; call 877-612-2622, prompt 3; or visit fsisac.com/join/.

Credit Union Council

The Credit Union Council (CUC) is one of the “Circles of Trust” found at FS-ISAC. The CUC was created within the Community Institution and Associations Council (CIAC) of FS-ISAC at the request of credit union members. The CIAC is composed of credit unions and community banks under \$20 billion USD in assets and is the largest and most active council at FS-ISAC.

The CIAC provides members with an opportunity to share information between credit unions and community banks. Since cyberthreats are not relegated to only credit unions or only community banks, cross-sharing between these institutions is crucial to ensure all community institutions have the information they need to protect their network and their members. A monthly member meeting is also conducted through the CIAC and includes presentations on appropriate topics by subject matter experts.

Understanding there are times when information security professionals at credit unions may want to communicate amongst themselves privately, credit unions have the option to request information from and offer information to other credit unions only via the CUC.

Become a Member Today

No credit union is immune to cyberthreats or the need for robust cybersecurity protection.

To begin receiving the incredible benefits and services that FS-ISAC membership offers, [join today!](#)