






# Proposed HIPAA Updates: Elevating Healthcare Cybersecurity Standards

	Category	Current HIPAA Security Rule	Proposed HIPAA Security Rule (2025)
	Definitions & Scope	Definitions and scope have remained relatively static.	<b>Expands definitions</b> to include new technologies and health tech companies, broadening regulatory scope.
	Implementation Flexibility	Distinguishes between “required” and “addressable” specifications, allowing flexibility.	Removes the “addressable” category, making <b>all implementation specifications mandatory</b> .
	Specific Security Measures	Provides general guidelines for safeguarding ePHI, with implementation flexibility.	<b>Mandates measures</b> (e.g., multifactor authentication, encryption, risk assessments, incident response, and disaster recovery plans).
	Business Associate Agreements	Requires covered entities to have agreements ensuring business associates safeguard ePHI.	<b>Imposes stricter compliance on business associates</b> , including mandatory security measures and immediate breach reporting.
	Compliance Audits & Penalties	Primarily complaint-driven enforcement, with periodic audits.	<b>Establishes regular audits</b> for covered entities and business associates, <b>with increased penalties</b> for non-compliance.

- Read the working draft: <https://public-inspection.federalregister.gov/2024-30983.pdf>.
- Public comment on the proposed rule closes March 7, 2025.
- The enactment timeline is pending. After the comment period closes, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) will review the feedback, then potentially issue a final rule.