

**SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY**  
*A Member of the Texas State University System*

**SRSU Policy:** Environmental Security of Data Centers and Network Closets

**SRSU Policy ID:** APM 7.13

**Policy Reviewed by:** Chief Information Officer

**Approval Authority:** Executive Cabinet

**Approval Date:** 4/11/2025

**Next Review Date:** 4/11/2030

**Purpose/Reason**

Sul Ross State University (SRSU) considers information technology to be a critical enabler in meeting its mission and has made significant investments in information technology assets and capabilities. SRSU recognizes the inherent value of these information technology resources to the state, the Texas State University System, and their constituents. Likewise, Texas Administrative Code, Title 1, Part 10, Chapter 202, Subchapter C (TAC 202) underlines the importance of information technology resources residing in Texas public higher education institutions by requiring state institutions “to protect these assets against unauthorized access, disclosure, modification or destruction,” and “to assure the availability, integrity, utility, authenticity, and confidentiality of information.” Compliance with this policy contributes to the availability, protection, and appropriate use of the information technology resources of Sul Ross State University.

**Policy Statement**

Data Centers and switch closets are to be protected from environmental hazards including temperature, water damage and power hazards.

**Policy Specifics**

Existing or New OIT Data Centers and switch closets must provide:

- Adequate air conditioning to keep the hardware operating within manufacturer’s specified minimum and maximum temperature ranges at all times.
- Adequate primary (commercial power) voltage and amperage to operate hardware within manufacturer’s specified norms.
- Adequate grounding and isolation of both primary and secondary power systems.
- Adequate backup power to maintain equipment at least long enough for authorized OIT personnel to safely shutdown the hardware in the case of a primary power failure.
- New or Existing OIT Data Centers and switch closets must be maintained in a clean and orderly fashion, with walkways and work areas free from obstacles. Wiring should be neatly bundled and maintained with dead jumpers, etc. removed on a routine basis.

**Scope and Applicability**

This policy statement applies to all persons and organizations that manage or utilize information technology resources belonging to Sul Ross State University.