Personal Computing: Network Protocol

Definition(s):
Data communication protocol used by desktop computers to talk among themselves, and to other servers and hosts, including mainframes.

Rationale:
A standard protocol is required to exchange information among computers and reduce the number of isolated computers and networks.

Approved Standards:
- The Internet Engineering Task Force develops proposed standards in the form of Requests For Comments (RFC’s). The de facto standard worldwide is the Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP).
- TCP/IP version 4 (IPV4)

Approved Products:
(not applicable)

Guidelines/Technical Considerations:
All new networks (both local and wide-area) should use the standard protocol. All new applications should be designed to run over the standard, and network connectivity should be a mandatory capability for all state computers.

Review Cycle:
As needed

Timeline:
Issued: April, 2002

Transition:
The transition period will be dictated by Department/Agency transition plans and should begin upon publication of standards and acceptance of the department/agency transition plan.
Office of Information Technology Standard

**Procurement:**
(not applicable)

Date: ________________

Approved by: _____________________