**Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS) Standards:**

**Category: 4000 Data Domain**

**4090 – Enterprise Connectivity Standards**

**Definition:**

Supports the interchange of information between multiple systems and applications.

**Approved Standard(s) for New Applications:**

A communication protocol is a system of rules that allows two or more entities of a communications system to transmit information via any kind of variation of a physical quantity. In order to facilitate the transfer of data between parties the type of connectivity must be agreed upon by the sending and receiving party.

The approved standards are:

* TCP/IP: Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) and the Internet Protocol (IP) is a suite of communication protocols used to interconnect network devices on the internet. TCP/IP is also used as a communications protocol in a private computer network.
* LLP: The Lower Layer Protocol (LLP), sometimes referred to as the Minimal Lower Layer Protocol (MLLP), is the standard for transmitting HL7 messages via TCP/IP. When using LLP, an HL7 message must be wrapped using a header and trailer to signify the beginning and end of a message.
* SFTP: Secure File Transfer Protocol is a network protocol that provides file access, file transfer, and file management over any reliable data stream.
* REST: Representational state transfer has been employed throughout the software industry and is a widely accepted set of guidelines for creating stateless, reliable web APIs.
* SOAP: Simple Object Access Protocol is a messaging protocol specification for exchanging structured information in the implementation of web services in computer networks. It uses XML Information Set for its message format and relies on application layer protocols for message negotiation and transmission.

The Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) requires all integrations with the KY PDMP to be facilitated by the RxCheck or Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) Interconnect data hubs.

**Approved Product(s) for New Applications:**

Microsoft BizTalk

Cabinet is also considering other Integration platforms

**Justification/Comments:**

The cabinet has decided on standard connection protocols to facilitate the exchange of data whether system to system, system to hub, system to user. These communication protocols were chosen because of their industry wide acceptance.

**Exceptions:**

Any exceptions to this standard must follow the procedures established in CHFS IT Policy #070.203.

**Review Cycle:**

Annually

**Timeline:**

Last reviewed: 05/31/24

Next review: 05/01/25

**Cross Reference:**

COT Standard #2640 – FTP and Secure FTP Server

COT Standard #2650 – FTP Client and Secure FTP Client Software

COT Standard #3200 – Network Protocols

COT Standard #3650 – Content Delivery Network

COT Standard #4080 – Data Classification Standard

COT Standard #5100 – Encryption

COT Standard #5515 – Secure Transport

**Link to all COT Software Domain Standards:**

[KITS\_Report.pdf (ky.gov)](https://cgp.ky.gov/sites/COTPUBDOCS/Standards/KITS_Report.pdf)

**Link to all CHFS IT Standards:**

[CHFS IT Standards - Cabinet for Health and Family Services (ky.gov)](https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/os/oats/Pages/itstandards.aspx)

**Link to all CHFS IT Policies:**

[CHFS IT Policies - Cabinet for Health and Family Services (ky.gov)](https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/os/oats/Pages/ITpolicies.aspx)