

# Protecting Your Employees' Data: A Guide to Vendor Security Reviews



Imagine the fallout if your employees' sensitive data was exposed in a massive data breach. It's a nightmare scenario that no organization wants to face, but with the increasing frequency of cyber-attacks, it's a genuine threat. When you evaluate new software vendors or third-party service providers, it's not just about finding a solution that fits your needs—it's also about ensuring their security protocols are rigorous and up to date.

At Abett, we're experts in secure data management, with a proven track record of successfully completing stringent industry security reviews. Here are some tips to help you navigate the complexities of vendor security reviews:

## Ask the Right Questions

- Inquire about the vendor's security measures for protecting your data.
- Ask about their encryption, access control, and detection and monitoring capabilities.
- Understand their incident response plan and how they would handle a breach.

## Assess Security Qualifications

- Request certifications or plans such as SOC 2 reports, CAIQ questionnaires, HITRUST, and adherence to HIPAA Security and Privacy Rules.
- Confirm the vendor has a tested security incident response plan.
- Evaluate the controls they have in place for encryption, access control, detection, and monitoring.

## Partner with Your IT and Security Team

- Include your IT and Info Security teams early in the RFP process to ensure that their concerns are addressed.

### Ensure your vendor has:

1. Single Sign On (SSO) integration
2. Monitoring and Logging, including HIPAA compliant audit logging tracking all access to PHI
3. Regular access control reviews and a documented onboarding and offboarding process
4. Encryption for data in transit and at rest
5. A SOC 2 Type 2, or ISO 27001 certification, or HITRUST certification or equivalent
6. Multi-factor Authentication (MFA) across all systems

## Expect Continued Support

- Vendor stays dedicated to protecting your data at all costs.
- Vendor takes the lead in annual security reviews.
- You are briefed on any changes in key security contacts and provided with ways to reach them.
- Vendor provides updates on security certifications.
- Vendor shares their plans for meeting new security protocols.
- Immediate notification of any risks or breaches.

**At Abett, we prioritize security and understand the importance of data security and how it can affect your organization. Lockbox™, our data management platform, prioritizes the security of your employee data, allowing you to confidently manage your benefits plan without worrying about data breaches.**

**Contact us today and discover how Lockbox™ secures your data.  
Or request a demo at [abett.com](https://abett.com)**



Abett envisions a world in which everyone has access to high quality, affordable, and timely healthcare. Our mission is to deliver solutions to our clients that produce transparency and accountability. Those solutions will put power into the hands of healthcare consumers, who are the world's most innovative companies.

**Lockbox™** by Abett is a secure data management platform. It serves as an employer's system of record for benefits and healthcare data. Lockbox gives employers complete access to and control over their benefits data. It provides a central hub for multiple benefit data streams. This allows employers to efficiently manage vendors, rapidly launch innovative programs, and deliver the best experiences for benefits staff and plan members in a secure and compliant environment.