Comment Period: November 7, 2023 – January 29, 2024

**Proposed NICE Framework Task Statement Updates**
In November 2020, NICE, a program in the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) at the U.S. Department of Commerce, released the first revision of the Workforce Framework for Cybersecurity (NICE Framework) (NIST SP 800-181r1). This document updates the 2017 Cybersecurity Workforce Framework. A significant change in the 2020 revision was removing the NICE Framework data (Task, Knowledge, and Skill statements; Work Roles and Work Role Categories; and Competency Areas) from the PDF document itself to be maintained separately. This separate maintenance provides greater flexibility and increased responsiveness to the evolving cybersecurity workforce needs.

In early 2021, the [Task, Knowledge, Skill (TKS) Statements Authoring Guide for Workforce Frameworks](#) (TKS Authoring Guide) was developed through a collaborative NIST effort between NICE and the [Privacy Engineering Program](#). This resource can be used in the development of new workforce framework statements and as a tool for the review of existing NICE Framework statements. The NICE Program Office first used the Guide when reviewing and refactoring deprecated Ability statements into TKS statements for retention and inclusion as NICE Framework data (released for comment in [December 2021](#)). Subsequently, the program office used the Guide in its review of the NICE Framework Skill and Knowledge statements (released for comment [April 2022](#)). Comments received have been adjudicated and adjustments made to these statements as a result.

We are happy to now release proposed updates to the NICE Framework Task statements that follow the principles set forth in the Guide. Once the Task statement comments are received and adjudicated, NICE intends to release a full, updated set of TKS statements for use with the NICE Framework, including a mapping of the 2017 statements to this updated data set.

This review refines and clarifies the Task statements, thereby helping them be more measurable, meaningful, and useful. The proposed Task statement updates provided here address:

- Consistency: Statements follow a common structure that begins with the activity to be executed and focus on the work to be done (not the knowledge or skills needed to do that work)
- Clarity: Statements are clearly stated
- Redundancy: Statements are unique and do not duplicate or unnecessarily overlap with others
- Compound statements: Statements do not include more than one task

This review did not extend to the creation of statements that would introduce new concepts to the NICE Framework, nor to the removal of content that might eliminate requirements or capabilities. At times new statements – including Knowledge and Skill statements – are proposed to fully reflect the content of the 2017 Task statements and in alignment with the TKS Authoring Guide, while others are proposed for removal either to eliminate redundancy or to address overly broad or vague statements.

We anticipate a need to develop additional new statements or further adjust existing statements in the future. NIST enjoys a long-standing tradition of transparency, and the NICE Program Office will work to ensure broad community engagement in those efforts, in addition to continued community engagement methods such as workshops, meetings, focus groups, and comment periods. We welcome your feedback and look forward to continuing improvement of this resource.

**Links:**
- [Draft Refactored Task Statements November 2023](#)
- [NICE Workforce Framework for Cybersecurity (NICE Framework) (NIST SP 800-181r1)](#)
- [Task, Knowledge, and Skill (TKS) Statements Authoring Guide for Workforce Frameworks (TKS Authoring Guide)](#)
- [NICE Framework Data Reference Spreadsheet (2017 Data)](#)