

FEDRAMP MARKETPLACE

DESIGNATIONS FOR
CLOUD SERVICE PROVIDERS

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FedRAMP



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PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

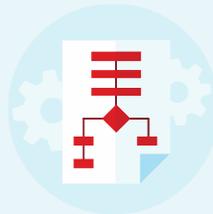
This document outlines the requirements for FedRAMP designations on the [FedRAMP Marketplace](#) for Cloud Service Providers (CSPs), including achieving a designation for a cloud service offering (CSO), maintaining a designation, and the removal of a designation.

The FedRAMP PMO defines three designations for CSOs:



FedRAMP Ready

A designation provided to CSPs that indicates that a 3PAO attests to a CSO's security capabilities, and a Readiness Assessment Report has been reviewed and deemed acceptable by the FedRAMP PMO.



FedRAMP In Process

A designation provided to CSPs that are actively working toward a FedRAMP Authorization with either the JAB or a federal agency.



FedRAMP Authorized

A designation provided to CSPs that have successfully completed the FedRAMP Authorization process with the JAB or a federal agency.

ABOUT THE FEDRAMP MARKETPLACE

The [FedRAMP Marketplace](#) provides a searchable, sortable database of CSOs that have achieved a FedRAMP designation. Accredited auditors that can perform the FedRAMP assessment, known as 3PAOs, are listed within the Marketplace. The FedRAMP Marketplace is maintained by the FedRAMP Program Management Office (PMO).

Agencies and CSPs are encouraged to use the Marketplace as a resource to:

- Research cloud services that are pursuing or currently authorized with FedRAMP
- Research agencies partnering with CSPs for a FedRAMP Authorization or using authorized cloud services
- Review FedRAMP's community of accredited 3PAOs



MARKETPLACE DESIGNATIONS

FEDRAMP READY

FedRAMP Ready indicates a 3PAO attests to a CSO’s security capabilities, and a Readiness Assessment Report has been reviewed and deemed acceptable by the FedRAMP PMO. The Readiness Assessment Report documents the CSP’s system information, compliance with federal mandates, and capability to meet FedRAMP security requirements.

Highlights of *FedRAMP Ready*:

- Only available for CSOs at the Moderate and High impact levels¹
- Valid for one calendar year from the date of designation by the FedRAMP PMO
- CSPs do not need an agency partner to submit a Readiness Assessment Report for **FedRAMP Ready**

Achieving *FedRAMP Ready*

FedRAMP Ready is required for any CSP pursuing a JAB P-ATO and is highly recommended for CSPs pursuing a FedRAMP Agency ATO. Achieving **FedRAMP Ready** indicates to the Federal Government that a CSP has a high likelihood of achieving a FedRAMP Authorization.

Steps to Achieve *FedRAMP Ready*



¹ Impact levels for federal information systems, including CSOs, are defined in [NIST FIPS Publication 199: Standards for Security Categorization of Federal Information and Information Systems](#).



The FedRAMP PMO reviews each Readiness Assessment Report to ensure a CSO's core security capabilities and operational processes are in place. Once the PMO deems the Readiness Assessment Report acceptable, the CSO is listed as **FedRAMP Ready** on the [FedRAMP Marketplace](#).

The **FedRAMP Ready** designation is valid for one year, beginning on the date the CSO is listed as **FedRAMP Ready** on the Marketplace. If the CSP would like to remain listed on the Marketplace past that point, they can work with a 3PAO and the FedRAMP PMO to issue a new Readiness Assessment Report to cover an additional year.

Any CSO that holds a FedRAMP Agency Authorization that would like to transition to a JAB P-ATO must also achieve **FedRAMP Ready**.

Holding Multiple Designations

In the event a **FedRAMP Ready** CSO achieves **FedRAMP In Process** or **FedRAMP Authorized**, the Marketplace status will be updated accordingly. If a CSO loses their **FedRAMP In Process** or **FedRAMP Authorized** designation, and the service offering is within the one-year period, the Marketplace status will be returned to **FedRAMP Ready**.

FEDRAMP IN PROCESS

FedRAMP In Process designation indicates a CSP is actively working toward a FedRAMP Authorization with the JAB or a federal agency. CSOs can achieve the **FedRAMP In Process** designation through the FedRAMP Connect process for JAB Authorizations and through agency-fulfilled requirements for Agency Authorizations. All **FedRAMP In Process** CSOs are listed on the [FedRAMP Marketplace](#).

JAB Authorization: FedRAMP Connect and FedRAMP In Process

The JAB selects roughly 12 CSOs each fiscal year (three vendors per quarter) to work with for a JAB P-ATO through a process called "FedRAMP Connect". Through this process, CSPs submit a business case that provides detailed product information and government wide demand. The criteria for business cases and evaluation are described in the [JAB Prioritization Criteria and Guidance document](#).

Prior to being listed as **FedRAMP In Process** on the Marketplace for a JAB P-ATO, a CSP must:

- Achieve **FedRAMP Ready** within 60 days of being prioritized by the JAB
- Finalize the CSO's System Security Plan (SSP)
- Engage a FedRAMP-recognized 3PAO to develop a Security Assessment Plan (SAP), conduct a full security assessment, and produce a Security Assessment Report (SAR)
- Upload all required security package materials to OMB MAX (federal document repository)
- Participate in a formal kickoff meeting with the JAB, PMO, and partnering 3PAO

Completion of the kickoff meeting serves as a go / no-go decision point for JAB Authorization efforts. If a CSP achieves a go decision, and the partnership with the JAB for a P-ATO may proceed, the CSO will be listed as **FedRAMP In Process** on the [FedRAMP Marketplace](#).



Agency Authorization: **FedRAMP In Process** Requirements

In order to be listed as **FedRAMP In Process** with an agency, a CSP must obtain written confirmation of the agency's intent to authorize and must fulfill at least one of four additional requirements.

Agency Attestation

The FedRAMP PMO must be in receipt of an email or letter from, or including, an Agency Authorizing Official (AO) that states:

- The CSP name
- The CSO name
- An attestation that the partnering agency is actively working with the CSP to grant an ATO in:
 - 12 months for Low, Moderate, and High authorizations, or
 - Three months for FedRAMP Tailored authorizations²
- The impact level (e.g., Low, Moderate, or High) at which the agency will authorize the service offering
- The agency and CSP points of contact who will work with FedRAMP during the authorization process
- The full 3PAO assessment is planned for no more than six months from the date of email

Additional Requirements

In addition, one of the following requirements must be met:

1. The agency provides proof of a contract award for the use of the CSO
 2. The agency and CSP demonstrate use of the service offering to the PMO
- Note: An email from the Agency AO stating the*

product is being used by the agency will meet this requirement

3. The CSO is currently listed as **FedRAMP Ready** on the Marketplace
4. Completion of a formal kick-off meeting that includes the agency, CSP, FedRAMP PMO, and, if applicable, 3PAO

CHANGE IN INITIAL AGENCY PARTNER OR AUTHORIZING OFFICIAL

If a CSP changes agency partners during the initial authorization timeline, the requirements listed above must be followed by the new agency. Upon fulfillment of the requirements, the Marketplace listing will be updated to include the new agency and **FedRAMP In Process** date. If the Agency AO changes while a CSP is listed as **In Process**, the FedRAMP PMO must be notified within 30 days and must receive confirmation from the new AO that they remain committed to authorizing the system.

QUESTIONS REGARDING IN PROCESS TIMELINE

The [FedRAMP Marketplace](#) displays the date a CSO was listed as **FedRAMP In Process** with the JAB or an agency. Questions regarding the status or progress toward FedRAMP Authorization for a **FedRAMP In Process** CSO should be directed to info@fedramp.gov.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE REQUIREMENTS

CSPs pursuing FedRAMP Authorization with component agencies of the Department of Defense must coordinate authorization efforts with the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) prior to receiving a **FedRAMP In Process** designation. More information can be found within the [Cloud Computing Security Requirements Guide](#) and the [DoD Cloud Authorization Services \(DCAS\) website](#) (CAC Required).

² FedRAMP Tailored authorizations for SaaS services are expected to have shorter timeframes through consolidated documentation and tailoring of security requirements.



FEDRAMP AUTHORIZED

The **FedRAMP Authorized** designation is provided to CSOs that have successfully completed the FedRAMP Authorization process with the JAB or a federal agency. **FedRAMP Authorized** indicates FedRAMP requirements have been met and a CSO's security package is available for agency reuse.

JAB Provisional Authorization

Cloud services that are **FedRAMP In Process** with the JAB can shift to **FedRAMP Authorized** once the following steps have occurred:

- The JAB reviews the security package for the CSO
 - CSPs and 3PAOs support JAB Technical Reviewers (TRs) during their review and participate in regular meetings with the PMO and JAB TRs to address questions
- The CSP submits accurate and complete monthly continuous monitoring deliverables (e.g., scan files, Plan of Action & Milestones [POA&M], and up-to-date inventory) to the JAB throughout the review
- The CSP and 3PAO remediate system and documentation issues as applicable following completion of the JAB review, ensuring all JAB TR comments are appropriately addressed
- The JAB validates the CSP and 3PAO remediation efforts
- The JAB issues a letter granting a P-ATO for the CSO to the CSP
 - The P-ATO letter is signed by the CIOs of the Department of Defense, the Department of

Homeland Security, and the General Services Administration

Once a P-ATO letter is provided to a CSP, the Marketplace listing for the service offering will be updated to reflect **FedRAMP Authorized** and the date of authorization.

Agency Authorization

CSOs that are **FedRAMP In Process** with an agency can shift to **FedRAMP Authorized** once the following steps have occurred:

- An agency grants an ATO for the CSO
- The CSP and 3PAO upload all required security package material to OMB MAX³
- The FedRAMP PMO reviews the package and releases an Agency Package Review Report
 - If necessary, the FedRAMP PMO schedules a review meeting with the agency, CSP, and 3PAO to discuss questions and gain clarity on outstanding items reflected in the Agency Package Review Report. Updates to the package may be requested by the FedRAMP PMO.

Once the FedRAMP PMO reviews a CSP's security package and determines it acceptable, the PMO will inform a CSP that FedRAMP Authorization designation has been achieved. The Marketplace listing for the service offering will be updated to reflect **FedRAMP Authorized** and the date of authorization.

³ Security packages at the High impact level cannot use OMB MAX. Upload of security documentation to the FedRAMP PMO should be coordinated prior to submission.



REMOVAL OF FEDRAMP MARKETPLACE DESIGNATION

The FedRAMP PMO actively manages the CSO designations on the [FedRAMP Marketplace](#). The removal of CSOs as **FedRAMP Ready**, **FedRAMP In Process**, or **FedRAMP Authorized** is at the discretion of the FedRAMP Director.

Scenarios that would lead to the removal of a FedRAMP Marketplace designation for a CSO include, but are not limited to:



FedRAMP Ready

- One year has lapsed since a CSO achieved **FedRAMP Ready** and a new Readiness Assessment Report is not completed.
- A CSO's **FedRAMP Ready** designation lapses prior to achieving **FedRAMP In Process** or **FedRAMP Authorized**.



FedRAMP In Process

- The authorization timeline for a CSO has exceeded 12 months for a Low, Moderate, or High authorization, or three months for a FedRAMP Tailored authorization.
- An agency or CSP informs the FedRAMP PMO that they are no longer working with a CSP for FedRAMP Authorization.
- The JAB deprioritizes a CSP for a JAB P-ATO.



FedRAMP Authorized

- A CSO no longer has at least one valid Agency ATO on file validating the use of the service at a federal agency.
- The ongoing security posture of a CSO, demonstrated through continuous monitoring, is insufficient for Federal Government use.
- JAB Authorized CSOs do not demonstrate sufficient Federal Government demand.

Notification of Marketplace Removal

If it is determined that removal is warranted for any of the FedRAMP Marketplace designations, the CSP and partnering agency (if applicable) will be notified by email. The designation on the Marketplace will be removed within 24 hours of the notification email.