

What Are the Benefits of FedRAMP for Government?

FedRAMP is critical for government agencies and users. Here's what you need to know about how it can benefit you and your agency.

FedRAMP is a big deal:

The program is mandatory, and federal agencies must ensure the cloud solutions they use meet FedRAMP requirements. FedRAMP uses a "do once, use many times" framework for vetting the security of cloud services. The program saves government an estimated 30-40 percent in costs, as well as time and staff resources.

FedRAMP is the future:

Cloud computing is the way of the future for government agencies, and FedRAMP will play a key role. The program is credited with helping to accelerate government adoption of secure cloud solutions. Some state governments are also requiring adherence to FedRAMP requirements.

FedRAMP levels the playing field:

Choosing the right cloud service for your agency can be challenging, but FedRAMP provides a baseline for you to compare the security of all potential vendors. The number of FedRAMP-compliant solutions has grown since the program launched in 2012.

FedRAMP helps with IT modernization:

FedRAMP enables agencies to rapidly adapt from old, insecure legacy IT to mission-enabling, secure and cost-effective cloud-based IT. It created and manages a core set of processes to ensure effective, repeatable cloud security for the government. It also established a mature marketplace to increase utilization and familiarity with cloud services while facilitating collaboration across government through open exchanges of lessons learned, use cases and tactical solutions.

FedRAMP offers support:

According to FedRAMP.gov, "FedRAMP is an example of a true partnership between the public sector and industry; there are over 120 Federal Agencies and 160+ industry partners actively engaged with the program. It is one of our priorities to support Agencies and their journey to innovate, modernize, save time and money, and protect citizen data using the latest cloud technologies. We are here to assist and guide Agencies through the FedRAMP authorization process, as well as promote collaboration across the federal government."

FedRAMP is also supporting agencies to:

- 1. Provide high-level education** about the cloud, security and the FedRAMP program.
- 2. Standardize the documentation and review process.** FedRAMP encourages agencies to perform their due diligence in reviewing all security documentation that is located within the FedRAMP secure repository prior to issuing an authorization.
- 3. Clarify the risks that the authorizing agency accepted.** FedRAMP applies safeguards to ensure agencies are well informed prior to reusing an agency-sponsored ATO. The FedRAMP team reviews each sponsored agency-standard ATO package and provides a summary report (three to four pages) outlining the system risk to ensure each agency makes an informed review and decision. FedRAMP retains a copy of all authorized cloud service providers' security documentation and assists agencies in performing their due diligence in reviewing all security documentation.

Some other benefits for government that FedRAMP offers:



Increases reuse of existing security assessments across agencies



Saves significant cost, time and resources by using a "do once, apply many times" strategy



Enhances transparency between government and cloud service providers



Provides a uniform approach to risk-based management



Improves real-time security visibility



Ensures consistent application of existing security practices



Increases confidence in security assessments



Increases confidence in security of cloud solutions



Increases automation and near real-time data for continuous monitoring