

Performance Profile: Systems Architect

Position Summary

GSA's Technology Transformation Services (TTS) exist to design and deliver a digital government with and for the American people. We apply modern methodologies and technologies to improve the lives of the public and public servants. Within TTS, the Office of Regulatory and Oversight Systems (OROS) governs the set of programs and systems that support federal regulations and grant-making activities.

OROS is seeking a qualified candidate to architect the end-to-end target solution, roadmap, and initial minimum viable product (MVP) for legacy systems modernization. Thereafter, the candidate will support ongoing lifecycle improvements to systems. The candidate will support a program and product manager in delivering a user-centered product vision through systems engineering and enterprise architecture practices.

The role involves diverse responsibilities not exclusively dedicated to systems engineering. The candidate will support a Contracting Officer's Representative (COR) in providing technical direction and oversight for development by contractors. The role also involves intra-agency and intergovernmental coordination on technical topics.

Within the program, you will work on a cross-functional team of experts in design, product strategy, content strategy, application development, and procurement. You will also coordinate with peers and stakeholders in other agencies who depend on the program.

In addition to systems engineering and enterprise architecture practices, the candidate should understand general engineering best practices such as source control, automated testing, continuous integration and deployment, and code review. Experience in configuring and operating in common cloud platforms like AWS, Azure, and Google Cloud is very helpful, as is experience with legacy system modernization.

The role of the architect is to manage the technical roadmap, ensuring that existing components are continually updated and renewed through appropriate asset management, and identifying which components to bring in and out as technology evolves and budget/capacity allows. The candidate will foster a team focus on making use of the best existing tools and options available rather than being wed to a particular language or framework or bespoke code.

The strongest candidates will have a background working on cross-functional, multidisciplinary teams that deliver digital products and services in an incremental, user-focused environment.

Key Objectives

- Objective #1: Be an effective collaborator on a distributed, agile team.
 - Thrive in a collaborative, cross-functional team by participating in constructive discussions, openly sharing knowledge, and demonstrating value for technical and non-technical contributions.
 - Demonstrate a strong understanding of the elements of agile methodology.

- Peer review application components submitted by team members and contractors in a fair and respectful manner.
 - Have your own development work peer reviewed by team members.
 - Be a part of regular retrospectives and provide feedback to help improve the way the team works.
 - Provide visibility into each project's progress, communicate blockers and challenges, and ask for help when you need it.
- Objective #2: Participate in decision-making that leads to a platform with the right balance of security and usability for end-users and integrating partners.
 - Provide perspective and expertise to help make product decisions.
 - Contribute to building the product roadmap, and evolve the roadmap as requirements and technologies evolve.
 - Develop creative approaches to solve difficult problems with many constraints and competing interests.
 - Partner with UX designers in customer engagements throughout the lifecycle of discovery, feature prioritization, user testing, and ongoing service improvement.
 - Effectively engage with a diverse set of technical and non-technical customer and stakeholder groups, including government workers, interest groups, small businesses, and individual citizens.
 - Prioritize available work and direct effort towards the highest value goals.
 - Effectively collaborate with intra-agency and intergovernmental peers to reuse and/or orchestrate application components.
- Objective #3: Oversee the modernization and ongoing lifecycle improvements for the program using best practices for systems engineering and enterprise architecture.
 - Develop and recommend technical solution alternatives for supporting policy obligations and user needs for the program's customers.
 - Provide technical guidance in IT security implementation in accordance with the Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA), Executive Orders (EO), Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS), National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) special publications, and Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) requirements.
 - Monitor and analyze emerging technologies for value and cost benefits to end-to-end program systems.
 - Coordinate with application engineers to ensure that the DevSecOps architecture meets the current and future needs for the program's systems in an efficient, sustainable, agile, and adaptable manner.
 - Balance budget and capacity with long-term needs when prioritizing replacement of existing components and systems.
 - Contribute to documentation, accessibility, performance, and security.
 - Formulate and execute consistently against objectives and priorities.
- Objective #4: Effectively apply IT capital investments and contractors in support of mission performance and delivery.
 - Support a Contracting Officer's Representative (COR) in the preparation of performance work statements, statements of work, and associated contract documents.
 - Support contract surveillance and performance monitoring activities specified by the COR.

- Assist acquisition strategy in conducting market research for future digital services and products.
- Coordinate with GSA-IT and the program budget officer for capital planning and investment control (CPIC) documentation and activities.