

FedRAMP GENERAL DOCUMENT ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA

Version 2.0

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FedRAMP



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This document describes a general Security Assessment Framework (SAF) for the Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program (FedRAMP). FedRAMP is a Government-wide program that provides a standardized approach to security assessment, authorization, and continuous monitoring for cloud-based services. FedRAMP uses a “do once, use many times” framework that intends to save costs, time, and staff required to conduct redundant Agency security assessments and process monitoring reports.

FedRAMP was developed in collaboration with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), the General Services Administration (GSA), the Department of Defense (DOD), and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Many other Government Agencies and working groups participated in reviewing and standardizing the controls, policies and procedures.



DOCUMENT REVISION HISTORY

DATE	VERSION	PAGE(S)	DESCRIPTION	AUTHOR
03/12/2015	0.6	All	Draft	Steve Levitas
05/05/2015	0.7	All	Incorporated Monette Respress's comments about acceptability of figures	Steve Levitas
07/30/2015	0.8	5 – 9	Incorporated Government comment	Val Connell
07/30/2015	1.0	5	Removed Section 3.0 and made ready for public release	John Hamilton
06/06/2017	1.0	Cover	Updated logo	FedRAMP PMO
02/07/2018	2.0	All	Reformatted Document	FedRAMP PMO

ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

Who Should Use This Document

The following individuals should read this document:

- Writers and reviewers of documents

How This Document Is Organized

This document is divided into the following primary sections and appendices:

SECTION	CONTENTS
Section 1	Introduction
Section 2	Document Review Criteria
Appendix A	Table of Acronyms

HOW TO CONTACT US

Questions about FedRAMP or this document should be directed to info@fedramp.gov.

For more information about FedRAMP, visit the website at <http://www.fedramp.gov>.



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1. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to describe the general document acceptance criteria for the Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program (FedRAMP) to both writers and reviewers. These acceptance criteria apply to all documents FedRAMP reviews that do not have predefined special checklists or acceptance criteria.

This document does not include security and/or technical review criteria used by Information System Security Officers (ISSOs) and Joint Authorization Board (JAB) Technical Representatives (TRs) to assess the technical quality of documents. See the *FedRAMP Review and Approve Process Standard Operating Procedure* for more information on FedRAMP review and acceptance criteria.

2. DOCUMENT REVIEW CRITERIA

0 contains a list of the criteria (Clarity, Completeness, Conciseness, and Consistency) to be considered during a general document acceptance review, and Severity Level information. The Description column includes the common items associated with the criteria to provide guidance. The reviewer determines the defect and its criterion. Severity Levels (Low, Medium, and High) are provided for guidance only. The reviewer determines the Severity Level of an item, based on their judgment.

Table 1 – Document Review Criteria

CRITERION	DESCRIPTION	SEVERITY	COMMENT
Clarity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Correct and consistent format Correct and continuous section numbering Logical presentation of material Current dates and timely content Non-standard terms, phrases, acronyms, and abbreviations are defined Proper titles and labels on figures No ambiguous statements or content Minimal and appropriate use of the passive voice No awkward phrases, typographical errors, spelling errors, missing words, or incorrect page and section numbers Reasonable sentence and paragraph lengths Use of generally accepted rules of grammar, capitalization, punctuation, symbols, and notation 	High <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Material is ambiguous, unclear, or incomprehensible 	
		Medium <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Material can be interpreted or understood after parsing 	
		Low <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detracts from the understanding of the material Typos, misspellings, undefined abbreviations, and similar minor defects 	

CRITERION	DESCRIPTION	SEVERITY	COMMENT
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate and accurate identification of cross-references Figure text is readable; figure graphics are sharp 		
Completeness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responsive to all applicable FedRAMP requirements Includes all appropriate sections of FedRAMP Template Includes all attachments and appendices Includes Table of Contents, List of Tables, and List of Figures when applicable Figures include required information, correctly labelled, and keys to color and line formats 	High <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unresponsive to FedRAMP requirement Incomplete or poor response to FedRAMP requirement that compromises security Does not include appropriate section of FedRAMP Template Missing attachment or appendix essential to the completeness or understanding of the material 	
		Medium <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incomplete or poor response to FedRAMP requirement that <u>does not</u> compromise security Missing nonessential attachment or appendix 	
		Low <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Missing Table of Contents, List of Tables, or List of Figures when applicable 	
Conciseness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Content and complexity is relevant to the audience No superfluous words or phrases 	High <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Content or complexity is irrelevant to the audience 	
		Medium <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Superfluous words or phrases that detract from the reader's understanding of the material 	

CRITERION	DESCRIPTION	SEVERITY	COMMENT
		Low <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Superfluous words or phrases that <u>do not</u> detract from the reader's understanding of the material 	
Consistency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Terms have the same meaning throughout the document Items are referred to by the same name or description throughout the document The level of detail and presentation style are the same throughout the document The material does not contradict predecessor documents All material in subsequent documents has a basis in the predecessor document Figure content agrees with text 	High <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Material contradicts predecessor document Material has no basis in predecessor document 	
		Medium <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inconsistencies detract from the reader's understanding of the material 	
		Low <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation style is different Inconsistencies are understandable 	



APPENDIX A: FedRAMP ACRONYMS

The master list of FedRAMP acronym and glossary definitions for all FedRAMP templates is available on the FedRAMP website [Documents](#) page under Program Overview Documents.

(<https://www.fedramp.gov/resources/documents-2016/>)

Please send suggestions about corrections, additions, or deletions to info@fedramp.gov.