# National e-Authentication Framework

A better practice framework intended to be adopted in a consistent manner by agencies, jurisdictions and sectors.

The NeAF assists agencies, jurisdictions and sectors in authenticating the identity of a user to a desired level of assurance or confidence. The NeAF encompasses electronic authentication (e-authentication) of the identity of users (individuals and businesses) dealing with the government, on one side of the transaction, as well as the authentication of government websites on the other side. The NeAF positions e-authentication within the broader context of an agency’s approach to identity and risk management and provides guidance on developing the processes and technologies required to provide the required level of assurance (LOA).

E-Authentication is effectively accomplished using something the user knows (e.g. password, secret questions and answers), something the user has (e.g. security token) or something the user is (e.g. biometric) or a combination of these.

The five objectives of NeAF are:

1. To ensure that approaches to e-Authentication of identity balance the underlying risk with the need for ease of use on behalf of both parties;
2. To enhance community confidence in electronic dealings with government agencies;
3. To provide consistency in government processes for e-Authentication of identity in order to increase efficiency and maximise the ease-of-use for all parties involved;
4. To provide government agencies with the tools to determine the most appropriate approach to the e-Authentication of identity; and,
5. To ensure that due diligence is applied when determining these authentication approaches.

**Print formatted version of the National e-Authentication Framework – PDF (415 kb)**

## Why is this important?

Consistent application of the principles and elements of the NeAF will facilitate the provision of fit-for-purpose authentication solutions thereby maximising the benefits both to agencies and the broader community.

## How do I?

* Learn more about NeAF