FEDRAMP MARKETPLACE

DESIGNATIONS FOR
CLOUD SERVICE PROVIDERS

Version 1.0

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FedRAMP

REVISION HISTORY

Date	Version	Page(s)	Description	Author
6/6/2019	1.0	6	Initial Draft	FedRAMP PMO

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PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

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

The FedRAMP PMO defines three designations for CSOs:

FedRAMP Ready

A designation provided to CSPs that have had a Third-Party Assessment Organization (3PAO) complete a Readiness Assessment Report (RAR) within the past year and have successfully demonstrated sufficient security and readiness to achieve FedRAMP Authorization with the Joint Authorization Board (JAB) or with a federal agency.

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 In Process is determined by the FedRAMP Connect process for the JAB and by the *FedRAMP In Process* Requirements for agency authorizations.

FedRAMP Authorized

A designation provided by the FedRAMP PMO to CSPs that have achieved either a JAB Provisional Authority to Operate (P-ATO) or FedRAMP Agency Authorization to Operate (ATO) and meet FedRAMP's requirements for continuous monitoring.

ABOUT THE FEDRAMP MARKETPLACE

The FedRAMP Marketplace provides the U.S. Federal Government with a searchable, sortable database of CSOs that have achieved a FedRAMP designation. The FedRAMP Marketplace is the authoritative source for listing FedRAMP designations. All designations on the FedRAMP Marketplace are vetted and 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 CSP's security capabilities, and a RAR has been reviewed and deemed acceptable by the FedRAMP PMO. The RAR documents the CSP's system information, compliance with federal mandates, and capability to meet FedRAMP security requirements.
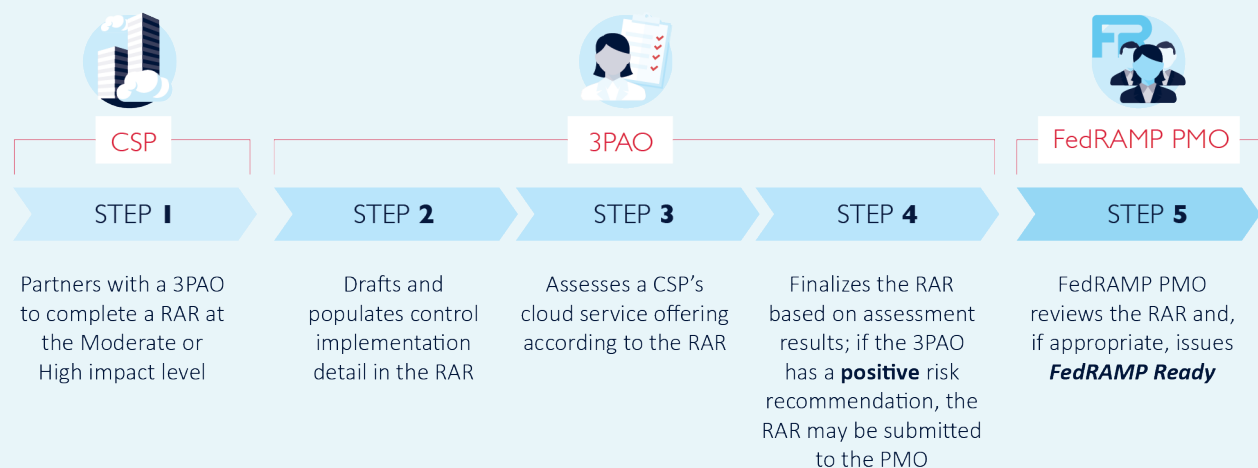
> **Highlights of *FedRAMP Ready*:**
> - Only available for CSOs at the Moderate and High impact levels[1]
> - Valid for one calendar year from the date of designation by the FedRAMP PMO
> - CSPs do not need an agency partner to submit a RAR for *FedRAMP Ready*

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*

CSP	3PAO		FedRAMP PMO
STEP **1**	STEP **2**	STEP **3**	STEP **4**	STEP **5**
Partners with a 3PAO to complete a RAR at the Moderate or High impact level	Drafts and populates control implementation detail in the RAR	Assesses a CSP's cloud service offering according to the RAR	Finalizes the RAR based on assessment results; if the 3PAO has a **positive** risk recommendation, the RAR may be submitted to the PMO	FedRAMP PMO reviews the RAR and, if appropriate, issues *FedRAMP Ready*

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[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 RAR to ensure a CSO's core security capabilities and operational processes are in place. Once the RAR is deemed acceptable by the PMO, 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. A CSP may issue a new RAR the following year if they would like to remain listed on the Marketplace.

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. Should a CSO lose **FedRAMP In Process** or **FedRAMP Authorized,** 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 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 has the resource capacity to authorize 12 CSOs each fiscal year. To ensure the greatest return on investment for the JAB's resources, the FedRAMP PMO, CIO Council, and JAB evaluate CSOs via a process called FedRAMP Connect.

Through FedRAMP Connect, CSPs submit business cases and justify why their service offering should be authorized by the JAB. Business cases and evaluation criteria are described in the [JAB Prioritization Criteria and Guidance](#).

Each quarter, the FedRAMP PMO and JAB review business cases and select approximately three CSOs to partner with the JAB.

Prior to being listed as **FedRAMP In Process** on the Marketplace, 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

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

Agency Attestation

The FedRAMP PMO must be in receipt of an email 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 Low-Impact SaaS (Li-SaaS) authorizations[2]
- The impact level (e.g., Li-SaaS, Low, Moderate, or High) at which the agency will authorize the service offering
- The agency and CSP points of contact will work with FedRAMP during the authorization process
- The full 3PAO assessment is planned for no more than 6 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 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).

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[2]   FedRAMP Tailored authorizations for Low-Impact 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.

Achieving **FedRAMP Authorized**

The JAB maintains the **FedRAMP Authorized** designation for all CSOs that have been prioritized to work with the JAB. The FedRAMP PMO maintains the **FedRAMP Authorized** designation for all CSOs that are **FedRAMP In Process** with a federal agency.

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 FedRAMP-compliant 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 MAX[3]
- 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 concerns regarding the Agency Package Review Report
  - The CSP and 3PAO make package updates to address the FedRAMP PMO's concerns
  - The FedRAMP PMO performs a gap review of any updated package elements
- The FedRAMP PMO reviews the CSP's security package, and issues a final Agency Package Review Report

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

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[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

- The CSP does not successfully submit a new RAR before the one-year expiration date.
- The CSP does not achieve *FedRAMP In Process* or *FedRAMP Authorized* within one calendar year from the date *FedRAMP Ready* is achieved.

FedRAMP In Process

- The Authorization timeline for a CSO has exceeded 12 months for a Low, Moderate, or High authorization, or 3 months for a Li-SaaS authorization.
- The FedRAMP PMO is informed by an agency that they are no longer working with a CSP for FedRAMP Authorization.
- The FedRAMP PMO is informed by the CSP that they are no longer pursuing a FedRAMP Authorization.
- It is otherwise determined that a CSP is not actively working towards, or is unlikely to achieve, a FedRAMP Authorization in a timely manner.
- 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.