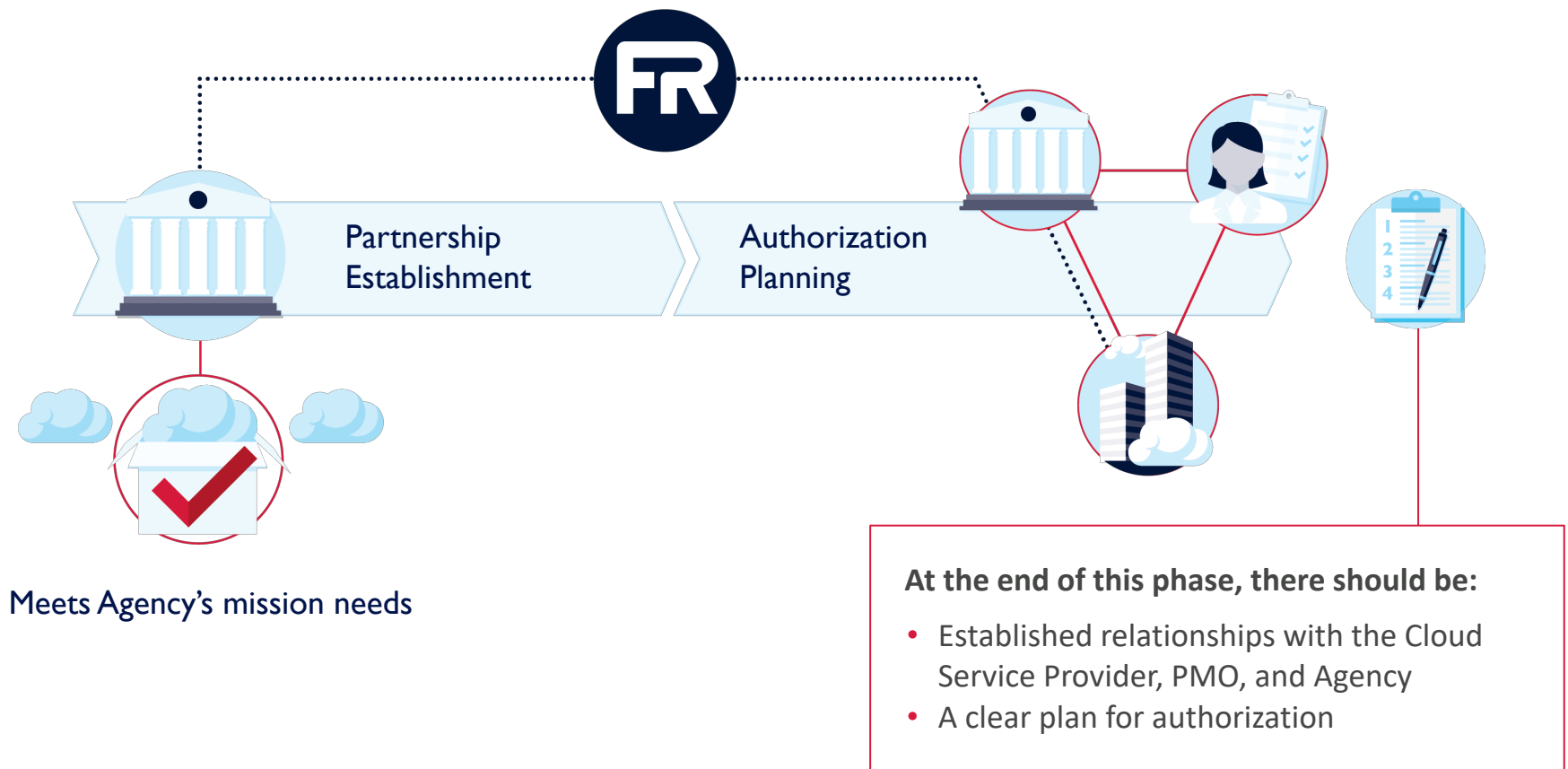


PRE AUTHORIZATION



Purpose: To align the Agency, Cloud Service Providers, 3PAOs around approach and partnership to authorization.

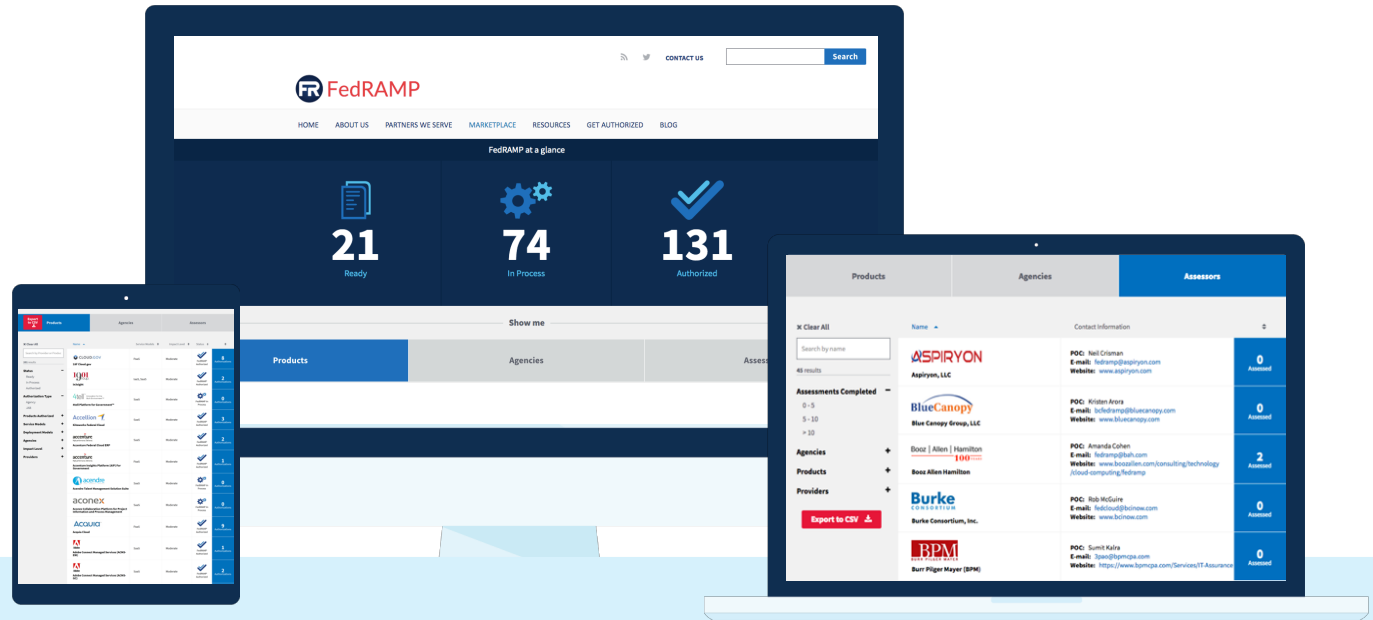


PRE AUTHORIZATION

Partnership Establishment



REFRESHER: THE FEDRAMP MARKETPLACE



- FedRAMP Marketplace dashboard provides a searchable, sortable database of all cloud services that are FedRAMP Authorized, FedRAMP Ready, or In Process for an authorization
- Can be used to find and learn more about cloud services associated with FedRAMP, understand which Agencies are using which authorized services, and find Third Party Assessment Organizations (3PAOs)
- If you are interested in a provider that already has a FedRAMP ATO, In Process, or Ready - request access to their package through info@fedramp.gov

PARTNERSHIP ESTABLISHMENT

Approach / Agency Roles & Responsibilities

1

Clearly define your Agency's mission needs and specific requirements for a CSO and begin researching possible providers.

- *See if the CSO has an existing FedRAMP authorization via the FedRAMP Marketplace*

If you are having difficulty selecting a CSO, reach out to agency@fedramp.gov. The PMO would be happy to meet with you to discuss your options and share lessons learned from other Agencies.

2

3

Once you have met with and selected a CSO, send an email to info@fedramp.gov sharing your intent to authorize that selected CSO in accordance with FedRAMP's In Process requirements.

Once you have found a CSO that will meet your Agency mission needs, meet with that CSP to determine the feasibility of authorizing their product and confirm a CSP's dedication to taking on the FedRAMP authorization process.

4

PARTNERSHIP ESTABLISHMENT

Approach / “In Process” Designation Deep Dive

If you are interested in partnering with a provider that is not yet FedRAMP Authorized, reference our Requirements for an In Process designation

Obtaining the FedRAMP In Process designation

- The FedRAMP PMO must receive an email from an Agency Authorizing Official (AO) or a FedRAMP PMO approved designee stating they are actively engaging with the CSP and plan to grant an ATO that meets FedRAMP requirements within 12 months
- Additionally, one of the following must be demonstrated to the FedRAMP PMO:
 - Proof of an Agency-awarded contract and timeline (within the contract) for when a FedRAMP compliant ATO will be achieved
 - An email from the Agency AO or FedRAMP PMO approved designee stating Agency use
 - The CSO achieved the designation of FedRAMP Ready from the FedRAMP PMO
 - Involved parties complete a formal kick-off meeting with the FedRAMP PMO and Agency present



Additional requirements associated with maintaining and removing a CSP from the FedRAMP Marketplace are located on www.fedramp.gov.

Effective Partnership Establishment requires becoming familiar with the CSO, the CSP's maturity, and commitment to a FedRAMP authorization

CSO OPERATIONAL STATUS

- Is the system operational?
- Does the system have dependencies on other CSOs?

CSP MATURITY

- Is the CSP dedicated to completing a FedRAMP authorization process?
- Does the CSP have prior experience with federal IT requirements?
- Does the CSP demonstrate operational maturity?

PROCESS MANAGEMENT

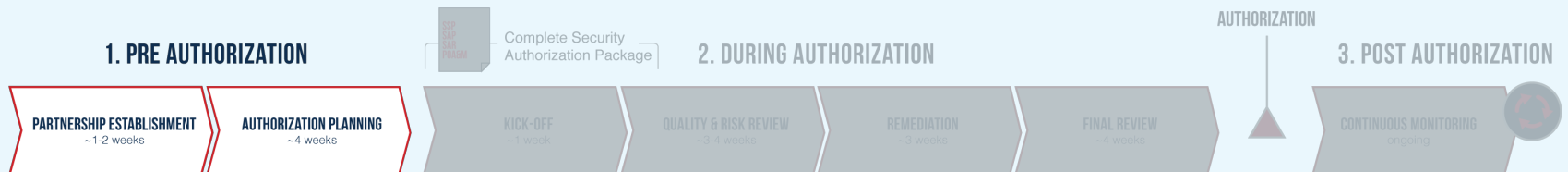
- Get the right people, with the right decision-making ability in the room
- Identify Agency "showstoppers"
- Establish a meeting cadence

ENGAGE THE PMO

- Share concerns with the PMO
- Establish a cadence for discussions with the PMO
- Engage the PMO to manage CSP questions / expectations

PRE AUTHORIZATION

Authorization Planning Approach



- Determine your authorization approach: **Just-in-Time** or **All Deliverables Simultaneously**
 - Confirm your resources. An Agency should have at least one technical reviewer (TR) (ISSO/ISSM) assigned to the authorization process – working closely with the Agency AO for the approval / authorization of the CSO
 - Identify and provide additional Agency-specific requirements above the FedRAMP security control baseline (if applicable)

APPROACH 1

Just-in-time



APPROACH 2

All Deliverables Simultaneously



- Develop a shared understanding of the **NIST Risk Management framework** within your Agency authorization team. This is the basis of the structure for your authorization schedule.
- The authorization planning process should be a **collaborative effort between your Agency, CSP, and 3PAO**.
 - Face-to-face interactions encourage positive and transparent working relationships among all stakeholder groups.
- A **CSP's level of commitment** and success exhibited during the authorization planning process is often indicative of their success in the actual process.
- Account for both the CSP and Agency instance (including Agency responsibilities) of the system stack should be included in the authorization boundary.