# FedRAMP20X

Industry Engagement Kit

Modernizing cloud adoption for cloud-native authorizations

### Who We Are

The Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program (FedRAMP®) helps to make digital government experiences safe, simple and seamless for the public by standardizing access to modern, secure cloud solutions for government agencies. By setting minimum cloud security standards, the program provides cybersecurity protection for tens of millions of American taxpayers when accessing federal services online.

## **Mission**

FedRAMP is a government-wide program that sets the standards and policies to galvanize private innovation to create best-in-class secure cloud solutions.

# What's Changing

FedRAMP will continue to support traditional Rev5-based Agency Authorizations; however, agencies have hit the limit of what can be reasonably automated following this traditional point-in-time based approach.

FedRAMP 20x will focus on innovating alternative approaches to make automated authorization simpler, easier, and cheaper while improving security continuously. These changes will reduce the average time for a commercial cloud business to obtain FedRAMP authorization from years to weeks through automation and modular compliance while increasing the overall security posture of federal cloud solutions through applied security.

"I love this. Ever since I came to the government, I never understood all of the documentation associated with the ATO process, since we all know that what really matters is how we implement technically."

- FedRAMP Board member

# How to Engage With Us

FedRAMP recently launched four initial Community Working Groups to provide the public with an opportunity to engage directly with FedRAMP advocates and others working on shared goals. Each group will create innovative solutions that meet FedRAMP standards and policies. Interested folks can learn more at fedramp.gov.

# **Community Working Groups**

#### Rev. 5 Continuous Monitoring

Development of continuous monitoring reports by cloud service providers with FedRAMP Rev. 5 authorizations to meet agency needs.

#### **Automating Assessment**

Development of industry standards and tools to automate assessment, reporting, and / or enforcement of technical controls. Start small, go big.

#### **Applying Existing Frameworks**

Understanding how policies and documentation created by industry can be applied directly to FedRAMP without separate processes.

#### **Reporting Continuously**

Identifying optimal mechanisms for CSPs to communicate directly with customers about continuous improvement without significant change requests.

Join the conversation! Be sure to check out the industry trade association events below.

Alliance for Digital Innovation

March 24, 2025 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM ET Business
Software Alliance

March 26, 2025 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM ET Cloud Service Providers – Advisory Board (CSP-AB)

March 25, 2025 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM ET

# **FAQs**

#### What is FedRAMP 20x?

FedRAMP 20x is an initiative to partner with industry to build a cloud-native continuous security assessment that's as simple as your cloud service offering - or as complex as needed. This new approach seeks to evaluate the outcomes of automated monitoring and enforcement of commercial security best practices to meet the minimum security requirement for federal information systems.

#### Why this and why now?

We've heard your feedback that the FedRAMP authorization process is too expensive, time-consuming, and challenging. GSA is dedicated to bringing more cloud services to government while effectively managing risks. As part of the Trump-Vance transition towards increased government efficiency, we are transitioning away from costly, inefficient, manually compiled documentation and towards industry-led, data-driven security reporting.

#### What are the next steps? When will FedRAMP 20x be implemented?

Technical assistance and guidance for FedRAMP 20x will be formalized on a rolling basis as the pilot is validated by the Community Working Groups. Each piece of guidance will go through formal public comment before it is made official and open to use by industry and other agencies.

#### What about existing FedRAMP authorized cloud service offerings?

All currently authorized cloud service offerings will be designated as FedRAMP Rev. 4 or Rev. 5 Authorized until they update to a newer 2025 or higher baseline.

#### I'm a new cloud provider. How do I get authorized today?

The only available route to FedRAMP authorization today is the Rev. 5 Agency Authorization path outlined on the FedRAMP website: <a href="https://www.fedramp.gov/agency-authorization/">https://www.fedramp.gov/agency-authorization/</a>.

# **FAQs**

#### Will FedRAMP 20x remain the same in 2026, 2027, etc.?

FedRAMP will be continuously improved and updated on a yearly basis. FedRAMP 20x is initially focused on cloud-native software-as-a-service, deployed on an existing FedRAMP Authorized cloud service offering using entirely or primarily cloud-native services, with minimal or no third party cloud interconnections.

#### What if I'm not able to join a Community Working Group? Can I still provide feedback?

Absolutely. While the Community Working Groups will work to validate initial ideas and encourage adoption, there will be an opportunity to share your feedback on any draft guidance during the formal public comment period. This approach allows room for continuous iterations before the first phase of FedRAMP 20x launches.

#### How will it work for a cloud service provider currently in the authorization pipeline?

Cloud service providers and federal agencies may continue to work together to perform "sponsored" FedRAMP Agency Authorizations against traditional FedRAMP Rev. 5 baselines and FedRAMP will accept these authorizations until a formal end-of-life timeline is announced.

However, FedRAMP will not provide updated technical assistance or guidance for implementation of the Rev. 5 baselines. Agencies will be expected to review the package in depth and independently make their own risk assessment.

#### How can I be sure to get notified of FedRAMP 20x changes?

FedRAMP believes in transparency and open collaboration. Be sure to follow along and engage by following our progress on the <u>Community Working Groups</u> page and through our Change Log on <u>fedramp.gov/changelog</u>.

#### Will new cloud service providers need an agency "sponsor"?

FedRAMP 20x involves submitting both documentation and automated attestation directly to FedRAMP before the cloud service offering is added to the <u>FedRAMP Marketplace</u> for hundreds of agencies to choose from. Once in the marketplace it will be up to agencies using a cloud service offering to authorize operations of the service as usual.

# Leadership



Pete Waterman
FedRAMP Director

Pete brings decades of experience in the development and adoption of technology services in both the private and public sector. He joined federal service in 2019 with the US Digital Service where he became deeply familiar with the complex web of laws, regulations, policies and standards that make deploying technology in government entirely different from the private sector. Prior to public service, he led engineering teams that delivered internet based services at various size software companies.

# Recent Coverage

- Should FedRAMP be re-envisioned in the age of AI?, March 13,2025
- FedRAMP In the Crosshairs, March 7, 2025
- FedRAMP to announce major overhaul next week, March 6, 2025
- Unleashing government efficiency: Why a fully resourced and modernized cloud authorizing entity is key,
   March 4, 2025

# **Connect With Us**

Follow along to stay up to date with our upcoming changes





