

Texas Risk and Authorization Management Program - [TX-RAMP](#)

FAQ

What is TX-RAMP?

TX-RAMP is a new program established by the state of Texas that requires cloud computing service providers to be certified by the Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR) before they are authorized to provide services to a state agency, including higher education institutions. The program went into effect on January 1st, 2022, and impacts ALL cloud computing service providers, including those who currently provide services to our institution.

There are several certification levels, depending on the type of information that will be processed by the vendor:

Level 1: public/nonconfidential information or low impact systems

Level 2: confidential/regulated data or moderate or high impact systems

Once a vendor submits required documentation that validates their ability to protect university information in accordance with state of Texas data protection laws they will be approved by DIR and they will be placed on the DIR's approved vendors list. Their status will be valid for three years.

How does this impact me?

Your purchase and adoption of a new cloud computing service, or renewal of a current service contract, could be delayed if the vendor has not previously been approved by DIR to provide cloud services in the state of Texas. This is in addition to the required technology risk assessment that is performed by the UNT World IT Compliance department.

How long does it take?

The time that it takes to complete the review process is dependent on the certification level. Level 1 carries a lower level of risk and requires less documentation. As of January 2022, the review process for Level 1 *could* take as little as a week, barring vendor documentation submission delays. Level 2 certification requires a more in-depth review, and *could* take as little as three weeks, again barring vendor documentation submission delays.

When does it apply?

The TX-RAMP certification process is required when entering a new contract or renewing a contract. Certification for service contracts that were in place prior to January 1, 2022 is not required until the contracts are up for renewal.

What action should I take?

If you need to acquire a new cloud computing service, or you are renewing a contract for a cloud service, you will need to contact IT Compliance for assistance. IT Compliance will assist you with maneuvering through the risk assessment process.

How do I obtain assistance?

If you have questions or need assistance, send email to ITCompliance@untsystem.edu.