

TX-RAMP – Level 1

TX-RAMP Level 1 defines baseline cybersecurity requirements for handling non-confidential data in cloud services used by Texas government agencies.



What it is

TX-RAMP Level 1 is a state cybersecurity compliance framework that helps organizations ensure secure and compliant handling of non-confidential data in cloud computing environments used by Texas government agencies. The framework establishes baseline requirements for cybersecurity controls and risk management, focusing on minimizing cybersecurity threats in lower-risk cloud services.

Published and overseen by the Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR), TX-RAMP applies to cloud service providers and state agencies managing public-sector data in Texas. The Level 1 requirements address areas such as access controls, data protection, incident response, and operational risk, providing foundational assurance for less sensitive workloads.

At a glance

PUBLISHER Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR)	TYPE Certification / Assurance Program	VERSION TX-RAMP Level 1 Baseline
EFFECTIVE 2021	DOMAIN Cloud Security	FAMILY FedRAMP
REGION Texas	INDUSTRY Government & Public Sector	ADOPTION MODEL Regulatory Compliance
IMPLEMENTATION COMPLEXITY Moderate		

Source: <http://dir.texas.gov/texas-risk-and-authorization-management-program-tx-ramp>

Why it matters

- Strengthen security governance** Promote systematic oversight of cloud-based security controls, fostering accountability and structured risk management for less sensitive data.
- Enhance compliance oversight** Support organizations in meeting Texas state regulatory requirements, facilitating transparency and adherence during compliance reviews.
- Promote operational resilience** Help minimize risks of service disruption by requiring clear incident response planning and robust operational risk controls for cloud systems.
- Increase audit readiness** Enable organizations to maintain comprehensive documentation and consistent security practices, improving preparedness for state-level audits and assessments.

How SmartSuite supports TX-RAMP Level 1

Service Scope and Boundary Definition Document the service offering, system boundary, and dependencies with clarity.	Level 1 Control Baseline Library Organize required controls with owners, procedures, and implementation evidence.	Evidence Collection Hub Centralize policies, configurations, and proof tied to each requirement.
Vulnerability and Patch Cadence Schedule scanning, patching, and remediation activities with evidence of completion.	Incident Response Readiness Track incident plans, exercises, and response evidence for public-sector expectations.	Assessment Readiness Reporting Provide clear reporting on control status, open gaps, and evidence coverage.

Common framework mappings

CIS Controls v8.1

FedRAMP Rev.5 High

FedRAMP Rev.5 Moderate

ISO 27001:2022

NIST CSF 2.0

NIST 800-171 Rev. 3

NIST 800-53 Rev.5

Official resources

Texas Risk and Authorization Management Program (TX-RAMP) Overview Provides an overview of TX-RAMP and compliance requirements for cloud services. dir.texas.gov/texas-risk-and-authorization-management-program-tx-ramp	TX-RAMP Level 1 Guidelines Defines requirements and criteria for cloud service providers under TX-RAMP Level 1. dir.texas.gov/tx-ramp-guidelines
TX-RAMP Authorization Process Outlines the process for obtaining TX-RAMP authorization and necessary documentation. dir.texas.gov/tx-ramp-authorization-process	TX-RAMP FAQs Answers common questions about the TX-RAMP framework and its implementation. dir.texas.gov/tx-ramp-faqs

Frequently asked questions

What is TX-RAMP Level 1 used for? TX-RAMP Level 1 is designed to ensure that cloud services used by Texas state agencies meet baseline cybersecurity and risk management requirements for handling non-confidential data. It establishes foundational controls to help minimize cybersecurity risks in lower-risk cloud environments.
Is TX-RAMP Level 1 certification required? TX-RAMP Level 1 is mandatory for cloud service providers and state agencies managing public-sector data classified as non-confidential within Texas. Providers must be authorized at the appropriate level before offering cloud solutions to state agencies.
What organizations or systems fall under the scope of TX-RAMP Level 1? The framework applies to cloud service providers and state agencies in Texas that process, store, or transmit non-confidential government data. It covers lower-risk cloud solutions where data sensitivity is limited but regulatory oversight remains important.
What types of cybersecurity controls are required by TX-RAMP Level 1? TX-RAMP Level 1 mandates implementation of security controls focusing on access control, data protection, incident response, and operational risk management. These controls are based on best practices and align with federal standards to address fundamental cybersecurity threats.

How does an organization achieve TX-RAMP Level 1 authorization?

To achieve authorization, organizations must map their cloud services to TX-RAMP Level 1 controls, conduct risk assessments, implement required safeguards, and document supporting policies and procedures. Completion of a DIR assessment is necessary to validate compliance.

How does TX-RAMP Level 1 relate to other frameworks like FedRAMP or NIST SP 800-53?

TX-RAMP Level 1 draws on concepts and control families similar to those in federal frameworks such as FedRAMP and NIST SP 800-53 but tailors requirements to the risk profile and regulatory needs of Texas state agencies and public-sector data.

What are the ongoing compliance requirements for TX-RAMP Level 1?

Organizations must continually monitor security controls, perform regular self-assessments, collect evidence of compliance, and be prepared for external audits by DIR. Continuous oversight ensures that cloud services remain aligned with TX-RAMP Level 1 standards over time.

How would SmartSuite support TX-RAMP Level 1?

SmartSuite provides tools for tracking risks, mapping and managing TX-RAMP Level 1 controls, collecting audit evidence, and supporting compliance reporting. Its centralized platform streamlines ongoing compliance monitoring, policy documentation, remediation tracking, and audit readiness for organizations subject to TX-RAMP Level 1.

License included / downloadable: Yes TX-RAMP documentation is publicly available through the Texas Department of Information Resources.

Full framework page and mappings: smartsuite.com/frameworks/tx-ramp-level-1-texas-risk-and-authorization-management-program