



WHAT IS TX-RAMP?

TX-RAMP (Texas Risk and Authorization Management Program) is a cybersecurity certification program managed by the Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR). It standardizes how state agencies and public higher education institutions purchase and use cloud services.

What is a cloud service?

Cloud services such as software, storage, or infrastructure are delivered over the internet rather than on local servers or personal devices. These services that store and manage university data are maintained and secured by the provider, offering convenience, scalability, and flexibility without managing their own hardware.

TX-RAMP Certification Levels

TX-RAMP Provisional Certification

Temporary status
(up to 18 months)
while working toward
full certification

TX-RAMP Level 1

For cloud
services handling
low-impact data

TX-RAMP Level 2

For cloud
services handling
confidential or
regulated data

Transition Plan & Requirements

As of January 1, 2022, any new cloud service used by a Texas state agency must be fully certified under TX-RAMP, hold a Provisional Certification, or be under an approved exemption. Existing services must become compliant by the end of their current contract or renewal term.

If a service is non-compliant, the organization may continue using it by submitting a **Transition Plan** to DIR:

- Planned step to bring the solution into compliance or replace it within 24 months
- The plan must be submitted for DIR's review/approval and must be renewed annually

For assistance with documenting or submitting a Transition Plan, contact your UHS Information Security office.

Exemptions

The TX-Ramp manual exempts certain services from the certification requirement. All exemptions must be approved by UHS Information Security and are subject to DIR audit. Documentation must be retained to justify the exemption reason.

Does TX-RAMP Apply To My Software?

Start

Is the
product a
cloud product?

Yes

TX-RAMP
REQUIRED

No

TX-RAMP
NOT REQUIRED

Additional Resources

- TX-RAMP Website: <https://dir.texas.gov/tx-ramp>



Questions:

For more information, please contact security@uh.edu, security@uhd.edu, or security@uhcl.edu if you have any questions, comments or concerns.