

# Texas Application Development Decision Framework

The role of information technology in Texas state agencies continues to grow, driven by digital government and constituent's expectations.

Business Applications are where “the rubber meets the road”: they directly support business capabilities that deliver the agency’s mission. Many agencies use application development approaches that served them well in the past, but are no longer sufficient to meet the increasing demand for agility, speed to market and quality.

This Application Development Decision Framework (ADDF) will help Texas agencies to develop their next-generation applications.

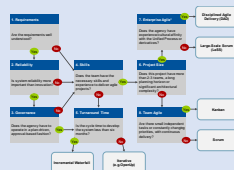


*Best practices capture proven and emerging approaches from planning to execution and ongoing support of application development initiatives, whether delivered in-house or through implementation partners.*



*Simple decision models provide guidance for selecting approaches based on agency and project characteristics.*

	Time-based	Feature-based
Staff planning (incl. impact of testing on business users)	🟢	🔴
Agility to quickly respond to emerging needs	🟡	🔴
Feature prioritization and delivery of business value	🟢	🔴
Coordination with release pattern of dependent applications	🟡	🟡
Predictable rhythm of important development events	🟡	🔴
Managing business expectations and wait time	🟡	🟡



*Multi-step or toolkit-based decision models help with more complex choices that may include a range of outcomes.*

## Key Takeaways

- The ADDF contains best practices and decision models for key areas of application development.
- The material is readily available through a [SharePoint site](#) with easy navigation and searching.
- Topics are linked to, and can be used in conjunction with the Texas Project Delivery Framework.

## Recommendations

- Adopt the best practices and decision models when planning for new application initiatives.
- Modernize agency’s application development processes and approaches based on ADDF topic areas.

## ADDF topics

The ADDF scope ranges from business alignment to process improvement, and development styles to application architecture innovation.

Each topic area is comprised of individual topics, with actionable recommendations to elevate agencies' current approaches to application development.

## Continuous Improvement

As agencies incorporate the ADDF into their application initiatives, DIR will collect feedback to continuously improve the material to best serve Texas agencies.

## Contact

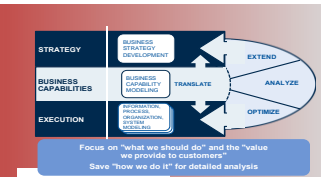
For more information, email:

[addf@dir.texas.gov](mailto:addf@dir.texas.gov)

[dir.texas.gov/addf-request](http://dir.texas.gov/addf-request)

## Business Outcomes

Improve capturing and achieving business outcomes through better identification of stakeholders and imperatives, developing business capability models and establishing governance.



## Development Approach

Select the right development process, project management style, and staffing model for the project characteristics. Optimize productivity and contain enhancements.



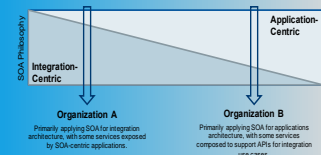
## Financial Model

Select the procurement approach and define the long-term support and refresh model. Determine the impact of the development approach on cost, responsiveness and risk.



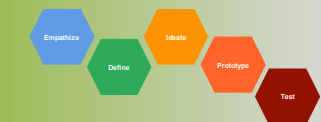
## Technology Direction

Consider new integration and service architecture patterns, cloud deployment, mobile access, programming languages and security. Incorporate best practices into the development process.



## Process Improvement

Manage and rationalize application portfolios, improve requirements solicitation, and optimize the application user experience.



## Organizational Culture & Change

Define the role of IT in the agency, IT leadership style and facilitated governance to improve business collaboration and efficiency.

