



ENTERPRISE ARCHITECTURE PROGRAM POLICY

See Also:

- RCW [43.105.054](#) WaTech Governance
- RCW [43.105.205](#) (2a, 2c) Office of the state chief information officer
- RCW [43.105.240](#) (2) Evaluation of agency information technology spending and budget requests.
- RCW [43.105.205](#) (3) Higher Ed
- RCW [43.105.020](#) (23) "State agency"
- RCW [43.105.265](#) (1) Enterprise Strategy
- RCW [43.105.020](#) (6) "Enterprise Architecture"
- RCW [43.105.450](#) (3f) Office of cybersecurity
- RCW [43.105.230](#) State agency information technology portfolio–Basis for decisions and plans.
- RCW [43.88.092](#) Information technology budget detail.

1. **Enterprise Architecture (EA) is the ongoing process of turning business vision and strategy into effective organizational change. EA creates, communicates, and improves the key principles and models that describe the enterprise's future state and enables its evolution. WaTech will lead Washington State’s EA Program and support effective enterprise change through technology and business alignment.**

2. **Washington State’s EA Program includes the following functions:**
 - a. Governance mechanisms to ensure alignment with organizational goals, accountability, and effective decision-making. The purpose of governance is to provide a structured framework for overseeing the development and implementation of architecture standards, policies, and practices, thereby ensuring consistency, transparency, and strategic coherence across the organization.
 - b. Overseeing and developing an enterprise-based architecture strategy for state government informed by portfolio management, business, information technology, security, and data. The purpose of the strategy will be to mature EA practices statewide and model a strategy for agencies to follow.
 - c. Provide leadership with recommendations to align IT investments with statewide strategy to support informed decisions.
 - d. Maintaining a knowledge repository for agencies to view and utilize, along with a training program for agencies.
 - e. Providing input for architecture employee classification in the Information

Technology Professional Structure (ITPS) job family.

- f. Enhancing decision making through governance, partnership, and education.
- g. Providing enterprise architecture [services](#), which include policies, standards, principles, models, [capability](#) maps, and guidance to agencies that align with:
 - i. [Washington State's strategic goal and values](#).
 - ii. [EA-01-01-S Criteria for Developing Enterprise Architecture Principles for Decision Making Standard](#).
 - iii. [EA-01-02-S Enterprise Architectural Domains Standard](#).
 - iv. A connected government approach to IT, cybersecurity, privacy, and [digital trust](#).
- h. Creating and maintaining an [enterprise service](#) roadmap and EA services catalog. See [EA-02 Establishing an Enterprise Service Policy](#).
- i. Supporting agency development of EA services such as policies, standards, guidelines, models, [capability](#) maps, and frameworks to align to EA program goals.
- j. Establishing critical success factors (CSFs), key performance indicators (KPIs), Objectives Key Results (OKRs), and benchmarks for evaluating program effectiveness and maturity. Identifying the qualitative value achieved through EA.

3. Agencies must demonstrate their alignment with statewide EA policies and standards and incorporate EA practices and principles into the agency's business and technology decision making processes.

- a. Agencies will develop policies, standards, guidelines, models, [capability](#) maps, and frameworks that align with the EA program.
- b. Within their agency's EA program or practices, agencies must document procedures for making technology purchases and architectural decisions that align with [EA-01-01-S Criteria for Developing Enterprise Architecture Principles for Decision Making Standard](#).
- c. Agencies will ensure IT Investments align to statewide strategy.
- d. Within their agency's EA program or practices, agencies must document

alignment with [EA-01-02-S EA Domain Standard](#).

- e. Agencies will attest to the agency's enterprise architecture alignment annually, as part of the technology policy certification requirement. See [POL-01 Technology Policies and Standards Policy](#).

REFERENCES

1. RCW [43.105.265](#).
2. [Washington State's strategic goals](#).
3. [EA-01-01-S Enterprise Architecture Principles for Decision Making Standard](#).
4. [EA-01-02-S Enterprise Architectural Domains Standard](#).
5. [EA-02 Establishing an Enterprise Service](#).
6. [POL-01 Technology Policies and Standards Policy](#).
7. [Definition of Terms Used in WaTech Policies and Reports](#).

CONTACT INFORMATION

- For questions about this policy, please email the [WaTech Policy Mailbox](#).
- For technical assistance, please email the [Enterprise Architecture Mailbox](#).

PROPOSED DEFINITIONS

- Enterprise Architecture: is an ongoing activity for translating business vision and strategy into effective enterprise change. It is a continuous activity. Enterprise architecture creates, communicates, and improves the key principles and models that describe the enterprise's future state and enable its evolution.
- Capability: (from Information Technology Infrastructure Library (ITIL)) The ability of an organization, person, process, application, configuration item, or IT service to carry out an activity.
- Digital Trust: The confidence in the integrity of relations, interactions and transactions among providers and consumers within an associated digital ecosystem.