

# Where does your IT project fit?



## Stabilization

### Stabilize Critical Services and IT Infrastructure

CDT's Service Stabilization program will assess critical IT services and stabilize those that demonstrate signs of potential disruption or failure due to new performance demands, functionality constraints or data quality degradation. High impact services at the greatest risk of failure or those with warning signs that warrant further investigation will be prioritized. This program does not have an application process. CDT will lead the effort to review mission critical services and will assist in determining the best project approval and funding path to implement stabilization recommendations. TMF may be used to fund urgent needs identified in a stabilization assessment.



## Modernization

### Technology Modernization Funding (TMF)

The TMF will be used to enable departments to deliver timely business modernization wins through high-value proof of concepts, fulfill immediate needs, and optimize services for digital government. A strong commitment from the department's business and IT leadership and team capability are required to be successful. Awards from the TMF will involve a multi-stage process including proposal, readiness assessment by CDT, and a "pitch" to a selection committee comprised of state executives from other agencies and departments. TMF may fund small project that can provide high-value services quickly or could be use for a Proof of Concept to jumpstart and bridge to larger projects approved through PAL.



## PAL

### Project Approval Lifecycle

The standard Project Approval Lifecycle should be followed to ensure IT projects are undertaken with clear business objectives, accurate costs, and realistic schedules and that they link strategic business plans and IT plans.

A small proof of concept or demonstration could be funded through the Technology Modernization Fund, but if sustaining resources (funding or personnel) are required for full implementation, enhancements, or maintenance which would require a BCP the project will need to follow PAL. For more information visit: <https://cdt.ca.gov/policy/simm-19>.

# FAQ

**Q:** What is the TMF and how much is in the fund?

**A:** The CDT received limited resources as part of the Governor's 2021-22 Budget to demonstrate the state's ability to make immediate investments in IT that will improve government services quickly. The TMF is comprised of \$25 million dollars to be allocated by 2022.

**Q:** What kinds of projects will be funded by TMF?

**A:** The TMF will be used for efforts that will take no longer than one year to implement from award to finish and provide substantial business value. Solving business problems that have a direct impact on the public or demonstrate solutions that can be replicated or leveraged by other departments will be prioritized. Examples of criteria that will be used include:

- Strong program, technical and operational leadership team
- Sound analysis of the business problem to be solved
- Viable, fast path to delivery (12 months or less),
- Return on investment (measured in risk reduction, financial returns, or increased quality of service)
- Support of statewide goals

**Q:** How will CDT select projects for TMF?

**A:** CDT will partner with other agencies to conduct a competitive process to allocate the TMF funds. Criteria for selection will include strong support from the requesting entity's executive leadership, commitment of resources required to be successful, and a high probability that the solution can be implemented successfully within one year. CDT will also set aside a portion of the TMF to address immediate needs to stabilize critical services, as identified by CDT's Service Stabilization program.

**Q:** How does TMF differ from the Project Approval Lifecycle (PAL) process?

**A:** The TMF will use an abbreviated process to evaluate business problems submitted by state entities, and then collaborate with a Civic Tech partner to conduct a discovery sprint to determine if there is a viable market solution that can be implemented within the schedule and cost constraints of the TMF. Business proposals that would require longer or more costly projects, will be referred to the PAL process for traditional project planning and budgeting.

**Q:** What is the process and next steps?

**A:** An on-line portal will be open for submissions in October. Submissions will be reviewed by a selection committee comprised of Undersecretaries and Chief Deputy Directors. Viable projects selected to complete a discovery sprint may be awarded a TMF implementation grant.

**Q:** When will the funds be awarded?

**A:** CDT envisions having several rounds of investment from the TMF. We anticipate awarding up to 3 grants for Round 1 discovery sprints in December for January engagements. CDT will run additional funding Rounds for the TMF throughout 2022 until the available funds have been allocated.