



Policy Timeline

- ★ Stage 1-2 Policy Effective: July 2015
- ★ Stage 3-4 Policy Release (Technology Letter): October 2015
 - Stage 3
 - Stage 4
- ★ Stage 3-4 Policy Refinement: November 2015 – December 2015
- ★ Stage 3-4 Policy Effective: First Quarter 2016
- ★ Transition to Maintenance and Operations: March 2016
- ★ Release 1 Project End Date: March 2016

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- ★ Structured and guided approach for developing IT project proposals
- ★ Thorough up-front planning
- ★ Transparent evaluation criteria
- ★ Accurate cost and schedule baseline at project approval



Project Approval Lifecycle

The Project Approval Lifecycle (PAL) will improve the quality, value and likelihood of success for new IT projects undertaken by the State of California and Department of Technology. The PAL replaces the decades-old Feasibility Study Report once required for new IT projects. State entities are now able to assess all implications of a proposed IT project through comprehensive review “stages”.

The process entails four “go/no go” decision points that request only the necessary and known information needed to make sound decisions for that stage in the approval process. The PAL reviews the incremental values and risks associated with each proposed IT project and links it to the entity’s strategic business and IT plans and its existing IT infrastructure to ensure new IT projects are undertaken with clear business objectives, accurate costs, and realistic schedules.



PAL Four Stages

The PAL is divided into four stages: Each stage consists of a set of prescribed, cross-functional, and parallel activities to develop deliverables used, and required, as the inputs for the next stage.

- ★ **Stage 1** - Business Analysis
- ★ **Stage 2** - Alternatives Analysis
- ★ **Stage 3** - Solution Development
- ★ **Stage 4** - Project Readiness Approval

