

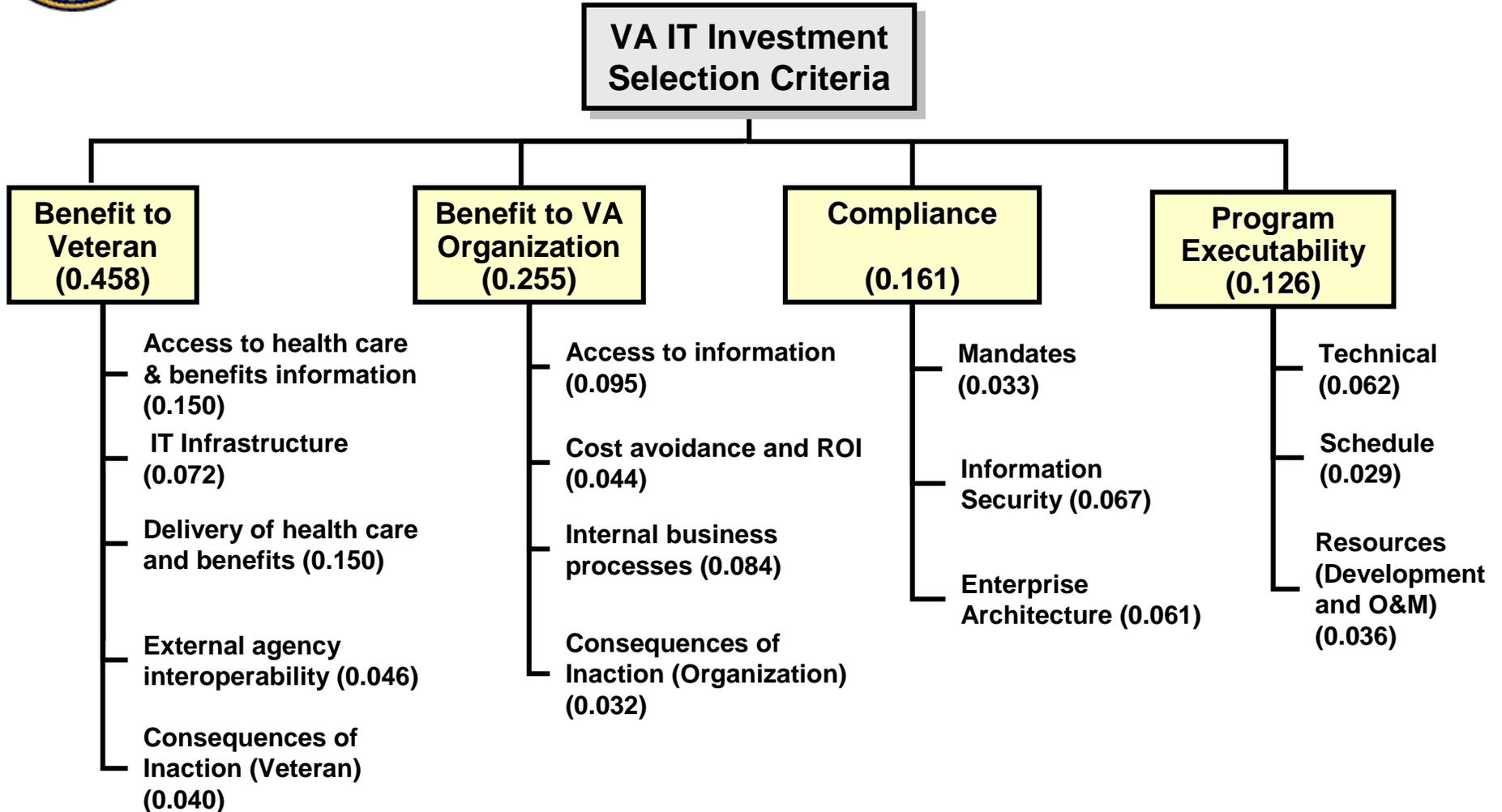
***Planning, Architecture, Technology, and
Services (PATs) Board***

***Selection Criteria
18 Mar 08***



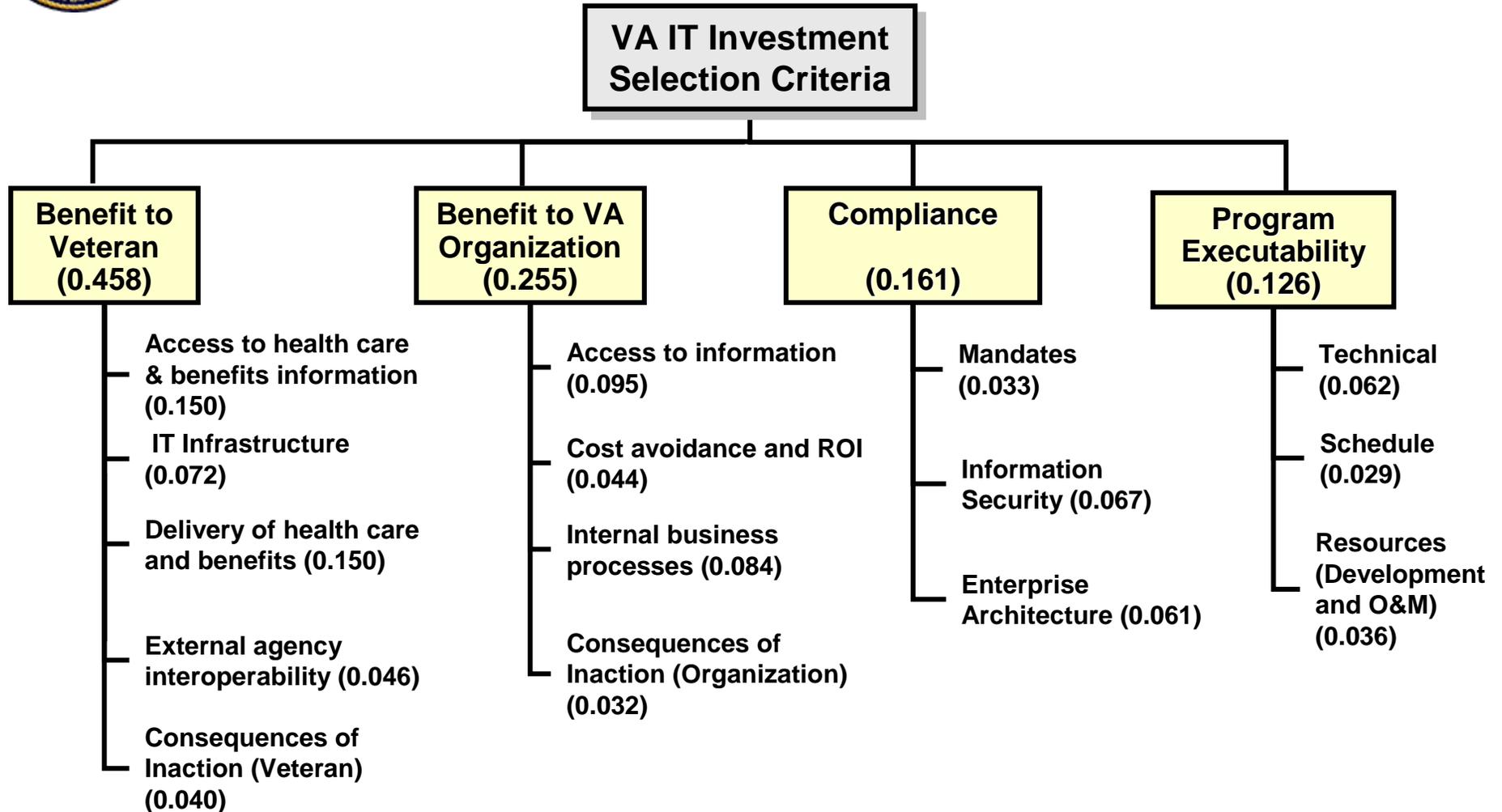


PATS Selection Criteria Hierarchy





PATS Selection Criteria Hierarchy





Benefit to Veteran & Others

Top level criteria: BENEFIT TO VETERAN & OTHERS

Sub-criteria: ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE & BENEFITS INFORMATION

Definition: Improve access, quality, timeliness, and accuracy of health care and benefit information to the veteran and service providers.	
Measure: To what degree does the proposal improve access, quality, timeliness, and accuracy of health care and benefit information to the veteran and service providers?	
Considerations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Supports internal exchange of data and information. •Supports external exchange of data/information. •Supports usability of data and information for decision making. •Enables timely dissemination of data/information. •Supports accessibility of data and information. •Supports access in multiple settings. 	
Rating	Rating Description
Very High	Significantly improves access, quality, timeliness, and accuracy of both health care and benefit information (greater than 50% of current conditions)
High	Improves access, quality, timeliness, and accuracy of both health care and benefit information by up to 50 % of current conditions
Moderate	Improves capability by up to 60% in any of the two areas of access, quality, timeliness, and accuracy of both health care and benefit information
Low	Improves capability by no more than 25% in any two areas of access, quality, timeliness, and accuracy of either health care or benefit information
Very Low	Only improves capability in a single area of access, quality, timeliness, and accuracy of either health care or benefit information



Benefit to Veteran & Others

Top level criteria: BENEFIT TO VETERAN & OTHERS
Sub-criteria: IT INFRASTRUCTURE

Definition: Improve and/or maintain physical IT infrastructure to support delivery of health care and benefits.	
Measure: To what degree does the proposal support improvement of physical IT infrastructure to support delivery of health care and benefits?	
Considerations:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Network systems support. •IT personnel support. •Physical equipment support. •Software support. •Hardware support. 	
Rating	Rating Description
Very High	Improves physical IT infrastructure by greater than 50% of current conditions in the delivery of health care and benefits; investment fully addresses two or more of the considerations
High	Improves physical IT infrastructure between 20% to 50% of current conditions in the delivery of health care and benefits; investment fully supports a single consideration and partially addresses others
Moderate	Improves physical IT infrastructure by up to 20% of current conditions in the delivery of health care and benefits; fully addresses a single consideration
Low	Improves physical IT infrastructure by greater than 30% of current conditions in the delivery of either health care or benefits; partially addresses two considerations
Very Low	Improves physical IT infrastructure by less than 30% of current conditions in the delivery of either health care or benefits; does not address any of the considerations



Benefit to Veteran & Others

Top level criteria: BENEFIT TO VETERAN & OTHERS

Sub-criteria: DELIVERY OF HEALTH CARE AND BENEFITS

Definition: Improve the direct delivery (quality, timeliness, and accuracy) of health care and benefits.	
Measure: To what degree does the proposal improve the direct delivery of quality health care and benefits?	
Considerations:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Supports delivery of benefits or care at multiple locations. •Promotes the least restrictive use opportunities for veterans. 	
Rating	Rating Description
Very High	Significantly improves direct delivery of both health care and benefit information (greater than 50% of current conditions) in terms of quality, timeliness, and accuracy; supports delivery at multiple locations
High	Improves direct delivery of both health care and benefit information by up to 50 % of current conditions in terms of quality, timeliness, and accuracy; supports delivery at multiple locations
Moderate	Improves direct delivery of both health care and benefit information by up to 60% of current conditions in any of two areas of quality, timeliness, and accuracy; supports delivery at multiple locations
Low	Improves direct delivery of either health care or benefit information by no more than 60% of current conditions in any of two areas of quality, timeliness, and accuracy; does not support delivery at multiple locations
Very Low	Only improves direct delivery of either health care or benefit information in a single area of quality, timeliness, and accuracy; does not support delivery at multiple locations



Benefit to Veteran & Others

Top level criteria: BENEFIT TO VETERAN & OTHERS

Sub-criteria: EXTERNAL AGENCY INTEROPERABILITY

Definition: Leverage and enhance interoperability with external agencies and other partners supporting the veteran (e.g. DOD, HHS, SSA, NIH).

Measure: To what degree does the proposal leverage and enhance improved interoperability with external agencies (e.g. DOD, HHS, SSA, NIH)?

Considerations:

- Improves VA internal coordination capacity.
- Improves VA external coordination capacity.

Rating	Rating Description
Very High	Leverages and enhances interoperability with all identified external partners and agencies
High	Leverages and enhances interoperability with 75% to 100% of all identified external partners and agencies
Moderate	Leverages and enhances interoperability with 25% to 75% of identified external partners and agencies
Low	Leverages and enhances interoperability one identified external partner or agency
Very Low	Does not leverage and enhance interoperability with identified external partners



Benefit to Veteran & Others

Top level criteria: BENEFIT TO VETERAN & OTHERS

Sub-criteria: CONSEQUENCES OF INACTION (Veteran)

Definition: Consequence of inaction to veteran benefits and services if the program is not implemented.	
Measure: What is the consequence of inaction to the veteran's benefits and services if the program is not implemented?	
Considerations:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The direct/indirect risk to veteran/family of veteran health care support. •The direct/indirect risk to veteran/family of veteran benefit support. 	
Rating	Rating Description
Very High	There is minimal negative impact (zero to 10%) on veteran's benefits and services if a program is not implemented
High	There is little negative impact (greater than 10% but less than 25%) on veteran's benefits and services if a program is not implemented
Moderate	There is some negative impact (greater than 25% but less than 50%) on veteran's benefits and services if a program is not implemented
Low	There is great negative impact (greater than 50% but less than 65%) on veteran's benefits and services if a program is not implemented
Very Low	There is significant negative impact (greater than 65%) on veteran's benefits and services if a program is not implemented



Benefit to VA as an Organization

Top level criteria: BENEFIT TO VA AS AN ORGANIZATION

Sub-criteria: ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Definition: Improve access to information, expertise, and knowledge (considering usability of internal and external data exchange).	
Measure: To what degree does the proposal improve easy access to information, expertise, and knowledge for VA employees, volunteers, and partners?	
Considerations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Supports internal/external exchange of data and information. •Enables timely dissemination of data/information. •Supports accessibility of data and information. 	
Rating	Rating Description
Very High	Significantly improves (greater than 50% of current conditions) access to information, expertise, and knowledge internally and with all identified external partners and agencies
High	Improves access (between 25% but less than 50% of current conditions) to information, expertise, and knowledge internally and with all identified external partners and agencies
Moderate	Improves access to information, expertise, and knowledge by up to 25% of current conditions internally and with at least half of identified external partners and agencies
Low	Improves access to information, expertise, and knowledge by up to 25% of current conditions internally and with at least one identified external partner or agency
Very Low	Improves access to only internal information, expertise, and knowledge by greater than 50% of current conditions



Benefit to VA as an Organization

Top level criteria: BENEFIT TO VA AS AN ORGANIZATION

Sub-criteria: COST AVOIDANCE & ROI

Definition: Contributes to cost avoidance and/or increases Return on Investment (ROI).	
Definition: Contributes to cost avoidance and/or increases Return on Investment (ROI).	
Considerations:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Reduced administrative (staff/infrastructure/personnel) costs •Reduced legacy systems costs? •Reduced future systems costs? 	
Rating	Rating Description
Very High	Designed to avoid significant costs otherwise incurred if not implemented and/or ROI > 1.5 over the next five years; IRR > 10 %;
High	Designed to avoid high costs otherwise incurred if not implemented and/or 1.3 <= ROI <= 1.5 over the next five years; 5.2 % <= IRR <= 10 %
Moderate	Designed to avoid moderate costs otherwise incurred if not implemented and/or 1.1 <= ROI <= 1.3 over the next five years; 4.8 % <= IRR <= 5.2 %;
Low	Designed to avoid some costs otherwise incurred if not implemented and/or 0 < ROI <= 1.1 over the next five years; 0 % <= IRR <= 4.8 %
Very Low	No planned cost avoidance measures and/or ROI <= 0, ROI is not provided, or ROI is incorrectly computed; No IRR; (Not at all)



Benefit to VA as an Organization

Top level criteria: BENEFIT TO VA AS AN ORGANIZATION
Sub-criteria: INTERNAL BUSINESS PROCESSES

Definition: Improve internal processes or procedures by reducing processing time, increasing cross administration information sharing, and/or reducing internal administrative burdens.	
Measure: To what degree does the proposal improve internal processes or procedures?	
Considerations:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Reduces administrative burdens. •Increases cross administration information sharing. •Improves internal operations. 	
Rating	Rating Description
Very High	There are many benefits received and/or a critical business opportunity/problem is addressed; benefits would be unachievable if not implemented; processes or procedures are improved by significantly reducing processing time, significantly increasing cross administration information sharing, and reducing internal administrative burdens
High	There are a moderate number of benefits received and/or an important business opportunity/problem is addressed; processes or procedures are improved by reducing processing time and increasing cross administration information sharing, or reducing internal administrative burdens
Moderate	There are some benefits, but they can be better achieved through other alternatives and are not crucial to the business needs of the VA; processes or procedures are slightly improved by reducing processing time and increasing cross administration information sharing
Low	There are very limited benefits; process or procedures have extremely limited improvement by reducing processing time or increasing cross administration information sharing
Very Low	No benefits for the VA business needs are evident and there are no improvements to internal processes or procedures



Benefit to VA as an Organization

Top level criteria: BENEFIT TO VA AS AN ORGANIZATION
Sub-criteria: CONSEQUENCES OF INACTION (Organization)

Definition: Consequences of inaction to organization if the program is not implemented.	
Measure: What are the consequences of inaction to the organization if the program is not implemented?	
Considerations:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The direct/indirect risk to the VA health care support organization. •The direct/indirect risk to the VA benefit support organization. •The direct/indirect risk to the VA critical administrative support systems 	
Rating	Rating Description
Very High	There is minimal negative impact (zero to 10%) on the health care support organization, benefit support organization and critical administrative support systems if a program is not implemented
High	There is little negative impact (greater than 10% but less than 25%) on the health care support organization, benefit support organization and critical administrative support systems if a program is not implemented
Moderate	There is some negative impact (greater than 25% but less than 50%) on the health care support organization, benefit support organization and critical administrative support systems if a program is not implemented
Low	There is great negative impact (greater than 50% but less than 65%) on the health care support organization, benefit support organization and critical administrative support systems if a program is not implemented
Very Low	There is significant negative impact (greater than 65%) on the health care support organization, benefit support organization and critical administrative support systems if a program is not implemented



Compliance

Top level criteria: COMPLIANCE
Sub-criteria: MANDATES

Definition: Address federal (external VA) mandates (statutory, regulatory, executive orders, OMB/VA direction etc.)	
Measure: To what degree does the proposal address federal (external VA) mandates?	
Considerations: <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Whether the proposal itself meets or maintains legislative, regulatory, and other non-discretionary mandates.•Whether the proposal is dependent on a non-discretionary mandated effort.•Whether the proposal is likely to trigger unfunded or unanticipated requirements.	
Rating	Rating Description
Very High	Meets all applicable external VA mandates
High	Meets most (between 60% up to 99%) of all applicable external VA mandates
Moderate	Meets some (between 30% up to but less than 60%) of all applicable external VA mandates
Low	Meets a few (up to but less than 30%) of all applicable external VA mandates
Very Low	Does not meet external VA mandates



Compliance

Top level criteria: COMPLIANCE Sub-criteria: INFORMATION SECURITY

Definition: Improve information assurance and/or provide corrective action.	
Measure: To what degree does the proposal ensure the protection of information from unauthorized use?	
Considerations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Whether the proposal promotes VA employee or veteran access. •Whether the proposal improves the delivery of services and benefits to the veteran. •Whether the proposal increases timeliness of access to information. •Whether the proposal decreases time required to access information by VA employees or veterans. •Whether the proposal improves enterprise wide security. 	
Rating	Rating Description
Very High	(Completely) The efforts being made provide a secure and safe environment for data and information produced, with very little chance of error; does not impede access, delivery of services, benefits, & timeliness of access
High	(Mostly) Evidence suggest efforts are being made to secure data and information, but there are areas that exhibit minor inconsistencies; does not impede access, delivery of services, benefits, & timeliness of access
Moderate	(Moderately) Some efforts are being made to secure data and information, but there are notable weaknesses; may impede access, delivery of services, benefits, or timeliness of access
Low	(Only slightly) Evidence suggests an attempt to address data and information security, but evidence is not convincing; may impede access, delivery of services, benefits, or timeliness of access
Very Low	(Not at all) No security measures are taken within this investment



Compliance

Top level criteria: COMPLIANCE

Sub-criteria: ENTERPRISE ARCHITECTURE

Definition: Integrate with the VA's 'as is' and/or 'to-be' enterprise architecture in order to implement strategic goals.	
Measure: To what degree does the proposal integrate with the VA's 'as is' and/or 'to-be' enterprise architecture?	
Considerations:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Whether it aligns with the business architecture. •Whether it is duplicative of existing programs. •Whether the proposal eliminates redundancy. •Whether the proposal is compatible with legacy computer architectures. •Whether the proposal is compatible with future computer architectures. •Whether the proposal is capable of enterprise wide application. 	
Rating	Rating Description
Very High	Completely integrates with “to-be” enterprise architecture; compatible with legacy architecture; accepts migration of legacy; can be applied enterprise wide and is not duplicative; fully addresses at least two or more of the goals and/or objectives in the VA Strategic Plan
High	Completely integrates with “to-be” enterprise architecture; compatible with legacy architecture; accepts some migration of legacy; can be applied enterprise wide; fully addresses a single goal and/or objectives in the VA Strategic Plan
Moderate	Partially integrates with “to-be” enterprise architecture; partially compatible with legacy architecture; can be moderately applied enterprise wide; fully addresses a single goal and/or objectives in the VA Strategic Plan
Low	Barely integrates with “to-be” enterprise architecture; partially addresses a single goal and/or objective in the VA Strategic Plan
Very Low	Does not integrate with “to-be enterprise architecture; does not address or focus on any goals and/or objectives listed in the VA Strategic Plan



Program Executability

Top level criteria: PROGRAM EXECUTABILITY Sub-criteria: TECHNICAL

Definition: Presence of a sound design document, requirements, development plan, and risk assessment and mitigation (DRDRM) plan.	
Measure: To what degree does the proposal address a sound risk mitigation assessment, systems engineering plan?	
Considerations:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •System integration requirements. •Hardware requirements. •Staff technical expertise required. •The extent of operational support required. •The technical maturity of the proposal's IT aspects. 	
Rating	Rating Description
Very High	There's a sound design document and a thorough and clear development plan; requirements are clearly articulated, understood and can be completely satisfied; the risks are well-identified and assessed, and have strong mitigation plans/strategies
High	There's a sound design document; the development plan is fairly well understood; requirements are articulated, fairly well understood and can be predominately satisfied; the risks are identified and assessed, and have proper mitigation plans/strategies
Moderate	There's a design document and a development plan; requirements are articulated, understood but can only be partially satisfied; mitigation plans/strategies exists, but they do not address the risks identified
Low	There's a design document and a partial development plan; requirements are partially identified and only partially satisfied; some risks identified, but there are no mitigation plans/strategies
Very Low	There's no design document; no development plan; requirements are questionable; the risks are not identified and there is no plan/strategy to mitigate the risk



Program Executability

Top level criteria: PROGRAM EXECUTABILITY Sub-criteria: SCHEDULE

Definition: Presence of a sound schedule that reflects phases, dependency conflicts, and achievable milestones.	
Measure: To what degree does the proposal achieve a sound schedule that reflects phases, dependency conflicts, and achievable milestones?	
Considerations:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Clearly outlined proposal phases. •Identification of known dependencies. •Appropriate mix and availability of developer resources. 	
Rating	Rating Description
Very High	(Completely) There is a detailed schedule set that reflects all phases, dependency conflicts and has achievable milestones
High	(Mostly) There is a schedule with details, but there are weaknesses which have room for improvement, reflects all phases, depicts some dependency conflicts, and milestones remain achievable but may require some yet unidentified additional work to satisfy
Moderate	(Moderately) There is a schedule with minimal details which require improvement, phases are not clearly distinguishable, almost no dependency conflicts depicted, and identified milestones are questionable and efforts that require action to meet the milestones are identified but not yet implemented
Low	(Only slightly) Schedule has some milestones identified and a partial path, but it is broad and generalized; requirement for phasing has been identified but has not yet been developed, dependency conflicts have not been identified
Very Low	(Not at all) There is no schedule identified for this investment



Program Executability

Top level criteria: PROGRAM EXECUTABILITY Sub-criteria: RESOURCES

Definition: A sound assessment of total program costs (e.g. personnel, facilities, implementation, contractor support, hardware, software).	
Measure: To what degree does the proposal achieve a sound assessment of total program costs?	
Considerations:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •See Investment Cost data (page 13 of the IT Multi Year Programming Guide). •Whether the resources are available in the executing organization(s). •Whether the total resource cost reflects development, operation and maintenance. 	
Rating	Rating Description
Very High	All IT and non-IT lifecycle cost drivers (personnel, facilities, implementation, contractor support, hardware, software, etc) have been correctly identified and accurately costed; there is a detailed WBS; funding is sufficiently programmed to deliver the program on schedule
High	All IT and non-IT lifecycle cost drivers (personnel, facilities, implementation, contractor support, hardware, software, etc) have been correctly identified and accurately costed; there is a detailed WBS; funding is sufficiently programmed to deliver the program on schedule
Moderate	Most IT and non-IT lifecycle cost drivers (personnel, facilities, implementation, contractor support, hardware, software, etc) have been identified and costed; there is only a top level WBS; programmed funding levels appears sufficient to deliver the program on schedule
Low	Few IT and non-IT lifecycle cost drivers (personnel, facilities, implementation, contractor support, hardware, software, etc) have been identified; No WBS exists; required funding levels to deliver the program on schedule are unknown
Very Low	Incomplete identification of IT and non-IT lifecycle cost drivers (personnel, facilities, implementation, contractor support, hardware, software, etc) ; No WBS exists; required funding levels to deliver the program on schedule are undeterminable