

AMENDING VA HANDBOOK 6500 TO INCORPORATE M-24-15

1. **PURPOSE:** The purpose of this notice is to amend language in the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Handbook 6500, Risk Management Framework for VA Information Systems VA Information Security Program, dated February 24, 2021, to align with requirements set forth in the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Memorandum M-24-15, Modernizing the Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program (FEDRAMP), dated July 25, 2024.
2. **POLICY:** VA Handbook 6500 is hereby amended as follows:
 - a. Page 6, Section 2(a) Policy. Insert: "Office of Management and Budget (OMB) M-24-15, Modernizing the Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program."
 - b. Page 22, Section 5(a)(2)(d) Information Technology Services. Replace "VA organizations contracting for external IT services in the form of commercial cloud computing services must comply with VA computing policy, VA Handbook 6517, Risk Management Framework for Cloud Computing Services," dated November 15, 2016, with "VA organizations contracting for commercial cloud computing services must comply with FEDRAMP Program requirements outlined in OMB M-24-15 in accordance with VA Directive 6500, VA Cybersecurity Program, dated February 21, 2021."
 - c. Page A-1, Appendix A: Terms and Definitions. Insert "8. Cloud Computing: See NIST SP 800-145, *The NIST Definition of Cloud Computing*."
 - d. Page C-2 Appendix C, Section 4, Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Publications. Insert "c.: OMB M-24-15, Modernizing the Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program".
 - e. Page C-2, Appendix C, Section 6, VA Directive and Handbooks. Remove: "g. VA Handbook 6517, Risk Management Framework for Cloud Computing Services".
3. **RESPONSIBLE OFFICE:** Office of Information and Technology (OIT) (005), Office of Information Security (OIS) (005R).
4. **RELATED DIRECTIVE:** VA Directive 6500, VA Cybersecurity Program, dated February 24, 2021.
5. **RESCISSION:** This notice will be rescinded, and guidance incorporated into the appropriate handbook no later than one year after the date of publication.

**Department of Veterans Affairs
Washington, DC 20420**

**VA NOTICE 25-06
March 10, 2025**

CERTIFIED BY:

**BY DIRECTION OF THE SECRETARY
OF VETERANS AFFAIRS:**

/s/
Nathan T. Sanfilippo
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/s/
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Acting Assistant Secretary for
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