

TMF is a Sustainable Funding Model for Federal IT Modernization

Seventy-five Percent of Federal Executives Expect to See Tangible Benefits by FY2023

Alexandria, Va., November 30, 2021 – Seventy-seven percent of Federal executives see the Technology Modernization Fund (TMF) as a game changer for the future of IT modernization, according to *TMF: One and Done or the Future of Fed Tech Funding?*, a <u>new research</u> infographic from <u>MeriTalk</u>, a public-private partnership focused on improving the outcomes of government IT.

The study, based on a survey of more than 80 Federal executives, explores perspectives on the TMF, recommended funding allocations, and anticipated benefits. Seventy-two percent feel TMF gives their agency a path to pursue a technology modernization project that they would not have otherwise considered. Additional benefits include addressing urgent IT modernization challenges (49%), transforming the way agencies use technology for mission delivery (44%), and bolstering cybersecurity defenses (41%).

When asked how they'd like to see the recent \$1 billion from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) allocated, Feds recommend prioritizing cybersecurity at \$310 million followed by modernizing high priority systems at \$290 million. Public-facing digital services comes third with \$210 million and cross-agency government collaboration/scalable services is forth at \$190 million. According to a U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) news release, of the initial \$311 million awarded from the APR funds, five of seven projects include a cyber component.

Still, some Federal executives may be hesitant to apply for funding. When asked what, if anything, is unattractive about the TMF, Feds cite that rolling submissions make them feel late to the game. Additional challenges include communication, momentum from the awards rollout, reliability of the program's funding, and accountability in tools like the FITARA Scorecard.



Despite challenges, 78 percent of Federal executives are optimistic about the future of the TMF. Two out of three see the TMF as a sustainable future funding model for Federal technology modernization and 75 percent expect to see tangible benefits from the TMF by fiscal year 2023.

TMF: One and Done or the Future of Fed Tech Funding? is based on an online survey of over 80 Federal executives familiar with the TMF, a Federal IT funding vehicle authorized by the Modernizing Government Technology Act of 2017. The research is underwritten by DocuSign, Duo, Proofpoint, and ScienceLogic. To view the full infographic, please visit https://www.meritalk.com/study/tmf-fed-tech-funding/

About MeriTalk

The voice of tomorrow's government today, MeriTalk is a public-private partnership focused on improving the outcomes of government IT. Our award-winning editorial team and world-class events and research staff produce unmatched news, analysis, and insight. The goal: more efficient, responsive, and citizen-centric government. MeriTalk connects with an audience of 160,000 Federal community contacts. For more information, visit <u>www.MeriTalk.com</u> or follow us on Twitter, <u>@MeriTalk</u>. MeriTalk is a 300Brand organization.

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