

FedRAMP Class B, Explained

How it's different from the legacy **FedRAMP Low**.

What is Class B?

Class B is the first full certification class in FedRAMP 20x. It replaces the legacy Low and Li-SaaS baselines and fits cloud services where a breach would cause limited harm.



A durable certification

Class B is a full certification destination, with its own complete package, independent assessment, and operating model.



Built for lower-risk work

Fits services where a breach causes limited harm, and where an agency will not depend on it for critical work.



A fresh, independent assessment

Certification requires a new FedRAMP assessment completed within the last three months.

Not a Renamed “Low”

FedRAMP is retiring Low, Moderate, and High as impact levels. **Class B and C run on a set of Key Security Indicators instead.**

Right now, agencies are mapping legacy Low authorizations to Class B to manage the transition. That’s a transition step, not the permanent design.

What the path looks like

1 Confirm the fit

Your use case should be real but lower risk, the kind an agency will not lean on for critical or agency-wide work.

2

Get a fresh assessment

Complete a new, FedRAMP-specific independent assessment within three months of certification.

Build the package

Produce evidence against the Class B ruleset, then assemble the full FedRAMP certification package.

3

4

Certify and maintain

Certify through 20x Program Certification, or Rev. 5 Agency Certification in legacy cases. Keep up the ongoing reporting and evidence that comes with a full certification.

The certification carries ongoing work: vulnerability handling, reporting, and evidence maintenance.

Built to Last, Not to Expire

Class A runs on a two-year clock, a bridge to Class B, C, or D. Class B has no such clock. It functions as a standalone certification, built for providers whose federal use case will last even at a lower risk profile.



Is Class B Your Right Move?

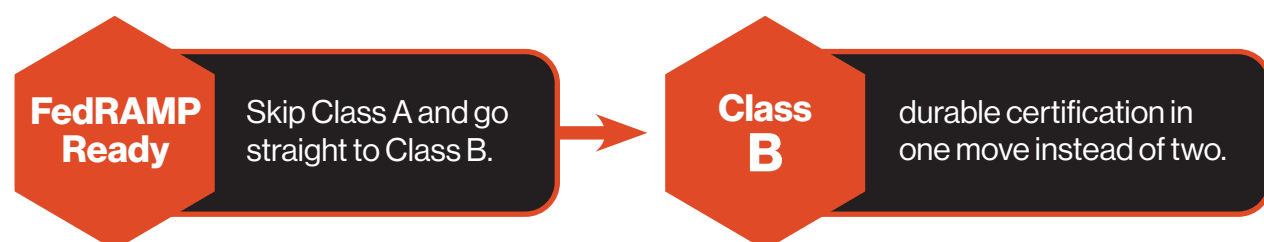
Class B fits when:

- ☐ You've outgrown Class A and need to upgrade your marketplace presence
- ☐ Your service handles lower-sensitivity data, without agency-wide or CUI-heavy workloads CUI
- ☐ You can support a full independent assessment and the evidence that comes with it
- ☐ Your buyer demand fits a lower-assurance target, well under a moderate-equivalent motion
- ☐ You want a full certification story that goes beyond a preparation-phase listing
- ☐ Your likely federal use cases are real, but lower risk

If your buyers expect CUI (sensitive federal data that falls short of classified), agency-wide use, or DoD-driven demand, Class B is probably not the right target. Look at Class C, Class D, or a dual-track plan instead.

If you hold FedRAMP Ready

Some Ready holders skip Class A and go straight to Class B.



If your buyer demand is stronger than a pilot case, and your architecture can support a full package, Class B may be the better landing spot. It gets you to a durable certification in one move instead of two.

Questions about Class B? We have answers.

Coalfire helps you confirm whether Class B is the right target, close the ruleset and evidence gaps, and build the certification package your buyers actually need.

Book a strategy meeting with Coalfire's FedRAMP team