

#### The opportunity in motion

Federal financial systems are steadily advancing toward greater transparency, cost efficiency, and accountability. Along the way, agencies across government are modernizing legacy processes, integrating siloed data, and tying transformation initiatives to clear mission outcomes. When financial modernization begins with a focus on goals and performance, agencies unlock measurable gains in citizen service, audit readiness, and fiscal stewardship.

# Addressing outcomes first, technology second

Modernization succeeds when agencies begin by defining the business or mission result they want to achieve, such as faster disbursement cycles, improved compliance, or increased program equity. Then, blueprinting sessions map workflows, reporting needs, and decision points. This work ensures that data and technology decisions flow directly from desired outcomes, making progress easier to measure.

## Developing high-integrity data foundations

As agencies consolidate and modernize systems, data quality and lineage are top priorities. Establishing a single source of truth with consistent standards for accuracy, completeness, and metadata gives program teams confidence in the insights that drive decisions.

#### Forward-looking practices

- Proactive data profiling and remediation embedded in development sprints
- Shared data catalogs that expose lineage, definitions, and usage guidance
- Collaborative data stewardship models that encourage teams to surface quality issues early, reducing rework and risk

## Building governance into transformation

Governance frameworks are living guardrails that evolve alongside programs to ensure data integrity throughout the lifecycle of a system or program. With formalized stewardship roles, automated policy checks, and regular audits, agencies are improving data and system security, reducing compliance burdens, and supporting decision-making.

In a recent engagement with a government client, Maximus worked with agency stakeholders to establish a governance model that included metadata standards, role-based access, lifecycle management policies, and ongoing quality checks. The team's work fostered both trust and utility in the data platform.

1

### Governance best practices

- Role-based access tied to mission need
- Metadata standards for improved discoverability
- Automated lifecycle management that flags data for review or archival at the appropriate time

### Aligning data with performancebased programs

Modern financial management is about more than processing transactions. It is about empowering accountability and continuous improvement. Agencies are structuring data architectures so that performance indicators are woven directly into operational workflows and reporting frameworks.

In supporting fraud detection efforts, Maximus helps agencies use vector-based data models to connect disparate data sources for anomaly detection. For example, a single taxpayer ID used in filings across multiple cities can raise red flags when data is structured to recognize patterns across time and geography. This kind of architecture supports faster, smarter decisions tied directly to measurable performance indicators such as reduction in improper payments.

#### Mission-driven outcomes

- Shorter fraud investigation cycles
- Improved accuracy in eligibility determinations
- Stronger, data-driven reporting to oversight bodies

## Creating enterprise efficiency with incremental wins

Agencies favor agile, incremental delivery that lets teams target high-impact areas first, deploy at a manageable pace, and iterate based on feedback. This approach accelerates value delivery while maintaining alignment with broader enterprise objectives.

Maximus supports this model with proven playbooks that combine deep federal mission expertise, modern platforms, and robust changemanagement practices. We support agencies in:

- Prioritizing high-impact areas
- Establishing governance structures and stewardship roles
- Defining and applying data quality standards
- Ensuring compliance through lifecycle management
- Embedding audits and checks into everyday operations
- Deploying solutions at a manageable pace
- Continuously refining based on feedback

The result: continuous improvement that scales across diverse federal financial missions.

In another government engagement, Maximus unified siloed systems into a single platform, replacing manual processes with a seamless system that enabled real-time decision-making. The project began with a comprehensive assessment of missions and functions and the data supporting them. Clear data ownership and standardized formats helped to create a single source of truth and enhanced readiness for advanced analytics and Al-driven insights.

#### The path forward

Data integrity is a strategic asset that multiplies mission impact and efficiency. By anchoring modernization efforts to clearly defined outcomes, shoring up data quality, and embedding governance throughout the lifecycle, agencies position themselves to deliver efficient, accountable, and citizen-centric services.

With experience supporting millions of transactions and vast operations, Maximus brings the scale and precision needed to help agencies accelerate their journeys toward performance-based financial management. Our solutions leverage modern platforms, from customer relationship management systems to data lakes, while staying rooted in real mission and business needs. Continuous feedback loops improve both technology and operations.

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- **1. Define** measurable outcomes that demonstrate success
- 2. Develop data strategies that align with mission outcomes
- 3. Implement solutions incrementally to deliver value quickly while allowing for continuous feedback and adjustment





To learn more, visit <u>maximus.com/federal-government/</u> <u>civilian/federal-financial</u> or <u>contact us</u> for a consultation.

