

SUBMISSION FORM

All submission forms must include the following information. Separate submission forms must be turned in for each eligible program. **Deadline: July 1, 2023.** Please include this submission form with the electronic entry. If you do not receive an email confirming receipt of your entry within 3 days of submission, please contact <u>Gage Harter</u>.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

County: Prince William County
Program Title: Oracle Cloud Financials and Budget ERP Implementations
Program Category: Information Technology

CONTACT INFORMATION

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SIGNATURE OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR OR DEPUTY/ASSISTANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

lame: Christopher J. Shorter
itle: County Executive
ignature:

Application for Virginia Association of Counties Achievement <u>Awards</u>

Executive Summary:

While the world was adapting to the "new normal" due to the ramifications of COVID-19 and Prince William County pivoted to shift much of its work and services to remote to continue to support our citizens and our government, the County decided to also take on a new major initiative. Through a competitive solicitation and negotiation process the County made the decision to move forward with an Oracle Cloud implementation. With the County's Finance Department as the lead agency with collaboration from various internal departments and agencies and a third-party implementor, we developed a roadmap and implementation plan for the Oracle Cloud Fusion applications.

Brief Overview of the Project:

On May 1, 2020, the Prince William County Finance Department kicked off its second Financials and Budget Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) implementation in just four years. Due to the heightened level of effort, an ERP implementation is typically done every 15 -20 years in most organizations. With new technology consistently on the rise, it is important for state and local governments to modernize its systems and applications to stay ahead of the changes. Prince William County Government identified a need to reduce the multiple systems and modernize our financial and budget systems with these newer technologies. The County Government was in pursuit of modernizing its Human Resource Information System (HRIS) and at the same time decided to take a hard look at the recently implemented Financials and Budget ERP system (Oracle EBS, implemented in 2016) in an effort to streamline all applications for that complete, one Enterprise Resource Planning environment. With such a recent Financials implementation under our belt, we did not have specific requirements documented but we knew we needed to seize the opportunity to migrate to a cloud environment and lead the way towards an Oracle Cloud implementation.

The County's project manager was tasked with setting up the project governance structure, charter, project team members and aligning project sponsors for each line of business. Next the project team had to identify the best work environment and processes given the challenge of working remote. Further complicating the project, was the fact that the team and the third-party consultants had to figure out how to successfully work together in a remote environment. Due to this being an unplanned migration, a detailed scope had not been previously prepared, making the task even that more challenging. The project team was quickly assembled and accepted the challenge of a quick (12-month) timeline for implementation during a stressful pandemic that further challenged resources, not to mention we were less than four years into a newly implemented solution and team fatigue was still fresh from the prior heavy lift of an ERP implementation and the post-go-live efforts. The team conducted multiple discovery sessions and began to review existing business processes to crosswalk from Oracle EBS to Oracle Fusion Cloud. The team adapted and was able to work together to design, script, test, and train on the new application, laying the foundation for integration with a new cloud-based Human Capital Management (HCM) system. The team worked days, nights, weekends and even a holiday weekend to get the County to the implementation finish line with a go-live date of July 2021. The project team demonstrated leadership at all levels as every member of the team had to lead while demonstrating respect, integrity, creativity, teamwork, excellence, and responsibility.

At now our second year utilizing the integrated ERP we have learned more about the applications and the interdependencies on the sub-ledger modules but more importantly the way we communicate as an organization to reach the goal of a successful government. With cloud computing now in place, the County has increased flexibility, accessibility and scalability and has greatly enhanced the security of its data. As the County continues to learn more about its system, we look forward to working with our partners to expand and implement more functionality and services for even greater efficiencies.