



Risk Acceptance Form and Tool (RAFT)

Show RAFT Guidelines

Show Form Instructions

Page 1 of 5

Decision Making Framework Risk Acceptance Form and Tool (RAFT)

Purpose: The purpose of this form is to provide a consistent framework for the Service that can be leveraged within a unit's existing governance or management approval processes to clearly document business decisions in the context of risk appetite and/or acceptance. This document can be used in various ways, including the following: 1) a framework to assess various options in making decisions for achievement of objectives, 2) a guide to articulate rationale behind those decisions within the context of risk appetite, and 3) a documentation trail to support these business decisions.

Name/Title of RAFT	Date RAFT created/revised

Business Operating Division	Functional Operating Division	Special Unit (if applicable)

Office (if applicable)

Other BODs, FODs or Special Units involved in the decision (check all that apply)

- | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ACA | <input type="checkbox"/> CC | <input type="checkbox"/> EDI | <input type="checkbox"/> OCA | <input type="checkbox"/> RAS | <input type="checkbox"/> TEGE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appeals | <input type="checkbox"/> CFO | <input type="checkbox"/> HCO | <input type="checkbox"/> OLS | <input type="checkbox"/> RPO | <input type="checkbox"/> W&I |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AWSS | <input type="checkbox"/> CI | <input type="checkbox"/> IT | <input type="checkbox"/> OPR | <input type="checkbox"/> SB/SE | <input type="checkbox"/> WO |



Risk Acceptance Form and Tool (RAFT)

- IRS does not currently have an articulated risk appetite statement.
- A RAFT was developed that outlines situations identified by IRS executive leadership where a heightened level of risk consideration is recommended.
- The RAFT is used to provide a consistent framework for the IRS that can be leveraged within a unit's existing governance or management approval processes to clearly document business decisions in the context of risk appetite and/or acceptance.
- This document can be used in various ways, including the following:
 - 1) a framework to assess various options in making decisions for achievement of objectives,
 - 2) a guide to articulate rationale behind those decisions within the context of risk appetite, and
 - 3) a documentation trail to support these business decisions.



Risk Acceptance Form and Tool (RAFT)

- Examples when use of a RAFT is recommended include:
 - Discontinuing or changing service delivery, or closing or consolidating offices or operations
 - Decisions on responses to audit recommendations that are expected to be controversial
 - Decisions to complete a major reorganization
 - Decisions to make significant changes to compliance and/or treatment approaches
 - Decisions that are likely to generate Congressional/Oversight interest or scrutiny
 - Decisions that key external stakeholders have expressed interest in and are likely to disagree with, or that could affect a large number of taxpayers
- A completed RAFT includes a description of risk acceptance – a description of the risk that is being accepted, considering exposures that could result from the decision.
- Use of the RAFT is voluntarily, so that it is not treated as a “check-the-box” assignment.