

CDT Digital ID Framework – Safe and Scalable Digital Access for Californians



A **digital identity (ID)** is the electronic validation of an individual's identity similar to a physical ID card. A digital ID can be presented electronically to verify an individual's identity in order to access information or services online. The **Digital ID framework** is a combination of systems and electronic artifacts that securely and conveniently allows the State to **verify individuals' identities to determine benefits eligibility, access to government services, and to distribute benefits to eligible individuals.**

CDT leads the development, implementation, administration, and management of the California Digital ID Framework – a collection of data, technology infrastructure, digital services, and governance that allows for digital identity and program eligibility verification. As per the authority of the State CIO and State CTIO, CDT is building both the technology supporting this framework as well as policy, guidance, and governance to empower other State departments to use it to enhance their own digital service offerings. The Framework is built around statewide technology and digital strategies and founded on **four key principles**: World-class security; Privacy-by-Design; Access and Equity; Openness and Transparency.

There are three primary elements that make the Digital ID Framework a tool for users to gain access to the many benefits that come along with state services:

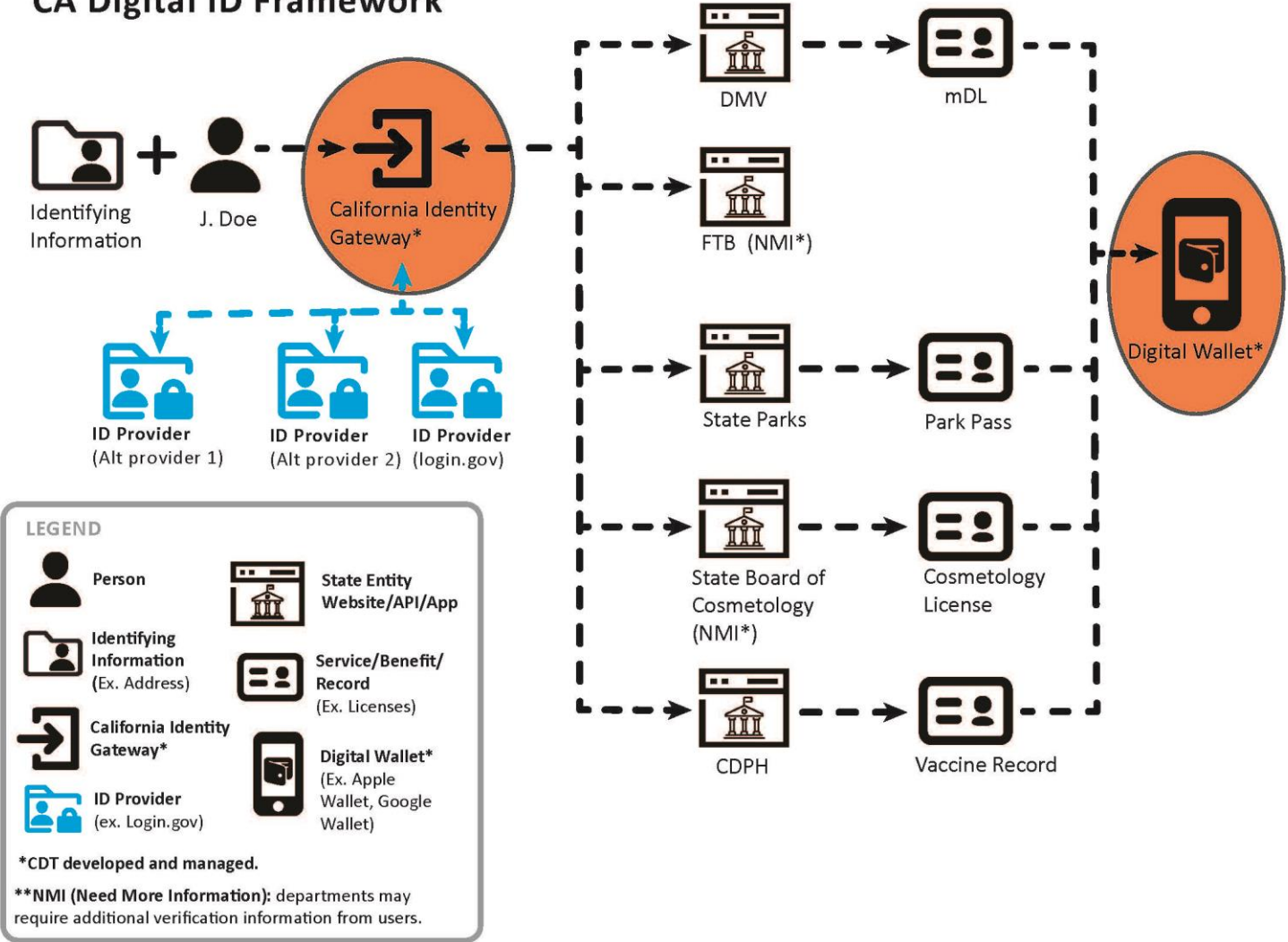
- **California Identity Gateway (CDT-built technology platform)** - A shared central technology architecture that facilitates the interaction between various digital platforms for identification and eligibility verification. The gateway will be the state's preferred service that leverages information held by one or more Identity Providers to enable Departments to identify and determine the eligibility of residents and provides the basis for a Single Sign-on (SSO) solution to access all state services. CDT also implements policy, standards, and requirements to establish the gateway as a statewide standard. In addition, CDT administers contracts related to the Gateway to allow for State departments to build off of CDT's identity management services.
- **Digital Credentials (Digital artifacts built off of CDT governance and overseen by CDT's Office of Digital Services)** – CDT-administered rules and requirements and development oversight to encourage State entities to develop digital credentials to integrate with the California Identity Gateway. These credentials securely store relevant information, either by the issuing entity or directly on a user's device. Credential types include items such as state park passes, state-issued professional licenses, vaccine records, transit passes with embedded discounts, electric vehicle charger access, and the mobile driver's license (mDL). These credentials may be presented in many different formats, including web, mobile apps, native mobile integrations, or even in proprietary solutions. However, CDT directly manages and provides technology solutions for the development and provision of credentials.
- **Digital Wallet** – A CDT-administered system and data architecture that will enable state-issued Digital Credentials to integrate seamlessly with commonly used consumer wallet products or be available to a resident's preferred wallet where appropriate. These wallets may store digital versions of physical cards like credit cards, membership cards, or even mobile driver's licenses, but can also facilitate transactions, allowing users to pay for goods and services digitally, or confirm their eligibility for a benefit or discount. Often, these features can be combined into a single credential. CDT will develop policy and governance regarding the development, use, and security of digital credentials. To provide additional support CDT will lead the State in the development of procurement vehicles and data sharing agreements that are necessary for the optimal implementation of digital wallet systems.

The **benefits** of the **California Identity Gateway**:

- A faster and more secure way for residents to receive necessary services, benefits, and information.
- The identity gateway creates trust between residents and their government by ensuring that the information flows are secure and that no one stores more personally identifiable information than is strictly necessary.
- The gateway leverages globally recognized standards with a preference towards open-source software, making the solution easy to scale.
- The technical architecture of the gateway creates flexibility for both the State and identity providers, allowing Digital ID services to easily scale with the diversity of use cases state and local agencies deal with.
- The modular design of the gateway allows for the flexibility for State departments to build benefits and services in the way that best meets their mission objectives.

CA Digital ID Framework Diagram

CA Digital ID Framework



Accomplishments

The short-term efforts within the Digital ID pilot will implement this foundation at a smaller scale to prove interoperability between multiple state entities' SSO solutions with enhanced privacy, security, accessibility, and operational efficiency.

California Identity Gateway

- Implemented to support state and local agencies in providing equitable, inclusive, secure, and easy-to-access government services. It does so by enabling them to verify user attributes while protecting user privacy. The California Identity Gateway ensures that the information flows are secure, and that ***no one stores more personally identifiable information than is strictly necessary.***

Statewide Online Digital Identification Pilot

- Demonstrates single sign-on (aka SSO), privacy and fraud controls in a centralized and interoperable system, built on the California Identity Gateway, and accessible from several distinct agencies. This is an opt-in service provided to residents.

Identity Verification integrations

- The California Identity Gateway supports multiple Identity Providers (IdPs) as appropriate to each agency's needs. CDT's initial integration is with Login.gov, a service of the Federal Government's General Services Administration. This work is complete and fully operational.

Eligibility Verification APIs

- Age-related benefits
- Transportation benefits program

Current Project and Synergy Efforts

A successful Digital ID pilot will lead to a **state-wide, federated identity service where all online state services can be accessed through a single service**. The long-term solution will also interoperate with mobile driver's license processes for identity proofing as well as additional use cases to digitize other licensure and permitting applications.

Pilot expansion - October 2023

- Transit Discount Sacramento Regional Transit – October 2023
- Transit Discount Santa Barbara Transportation District – December 2023
- CARB Green Energy Rebates – TBD

Publish Policies, Standards, & Requirements – September 2023

- Identity Gateway Integration – September 2023
- Digital Credentials – December 2023
- Digital Wallets – December 2023

Eligibility Verification APIs – December 2023

- Veteran eligibility status - September 2023
- CalFresh eligibility status – December 2023
- Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) is responsible for the mDL project which will introduce the capability to convert the state's most prevalent physical identification card into a digital credential enabling secure access and authentication for online use. Residents will be able to store a valid, government-issued driver's license on the mobile device of their choosing.

Identity Provider integrations – March 2024

- Login.gov IAL2 (identity proofing) self-certification and readiness - September 2023
- DMV verification integration option via Identity Gateway - March 2024

Roadmap

Here, we've chronologically highlighted what we've completed, what we're currently working on, what's in our sights, and what we'll do in future iterations.

Completed	Current	Near Term	Future
<p>California Identity Gateway</p> <p>Statewide Online Digital ID Pilot</p> <p>Transit System Senior Discount</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monterey Salinas Transit <p>Identity Verification Integration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Integration with Login.gov	<p>Transit System Expansion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sacramento• Santa Barbara <p>Policy & Standards Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identity Gateway Integration• Digital Credentials• Digital Wallet <p>Mobile Driver's License (mDL)</p>	<p>Eligibility Verification APIs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Veteran status• CalFresh status• CARB Green Energy rebates <p>DMV Digital Wallet Transitions to CDT</p>	<p>Identity Provider Integrations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Login.gov IAL2 self-certification• DMV verification option <p>Single-Sign On Readiness</p>