



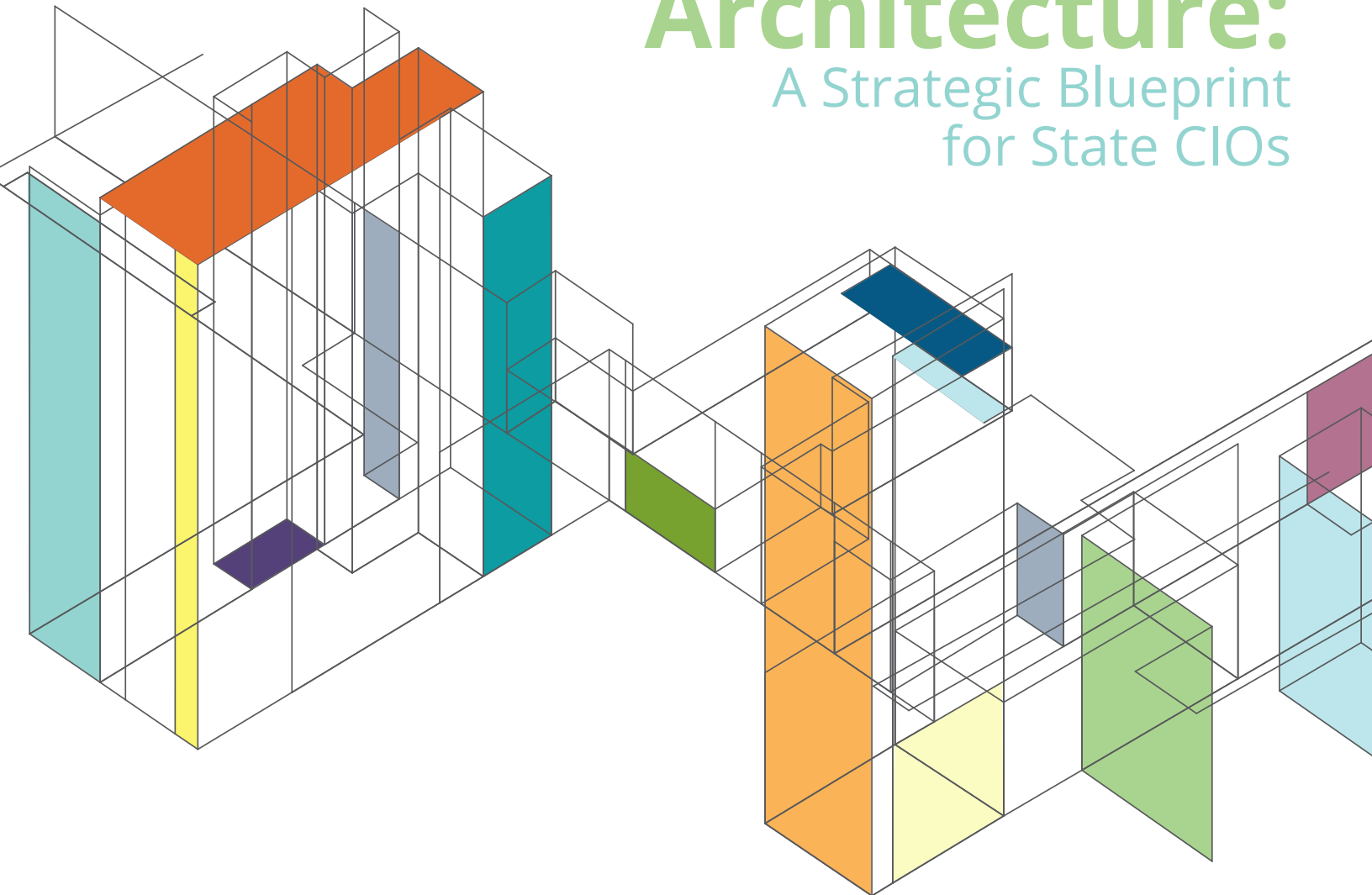
# ENTERPRISE ARCHITECTURE SERIES

The Path to Government Transformation

PART  
1

# Business Architecture:

A Strategic Blueprint  
for State CIOs

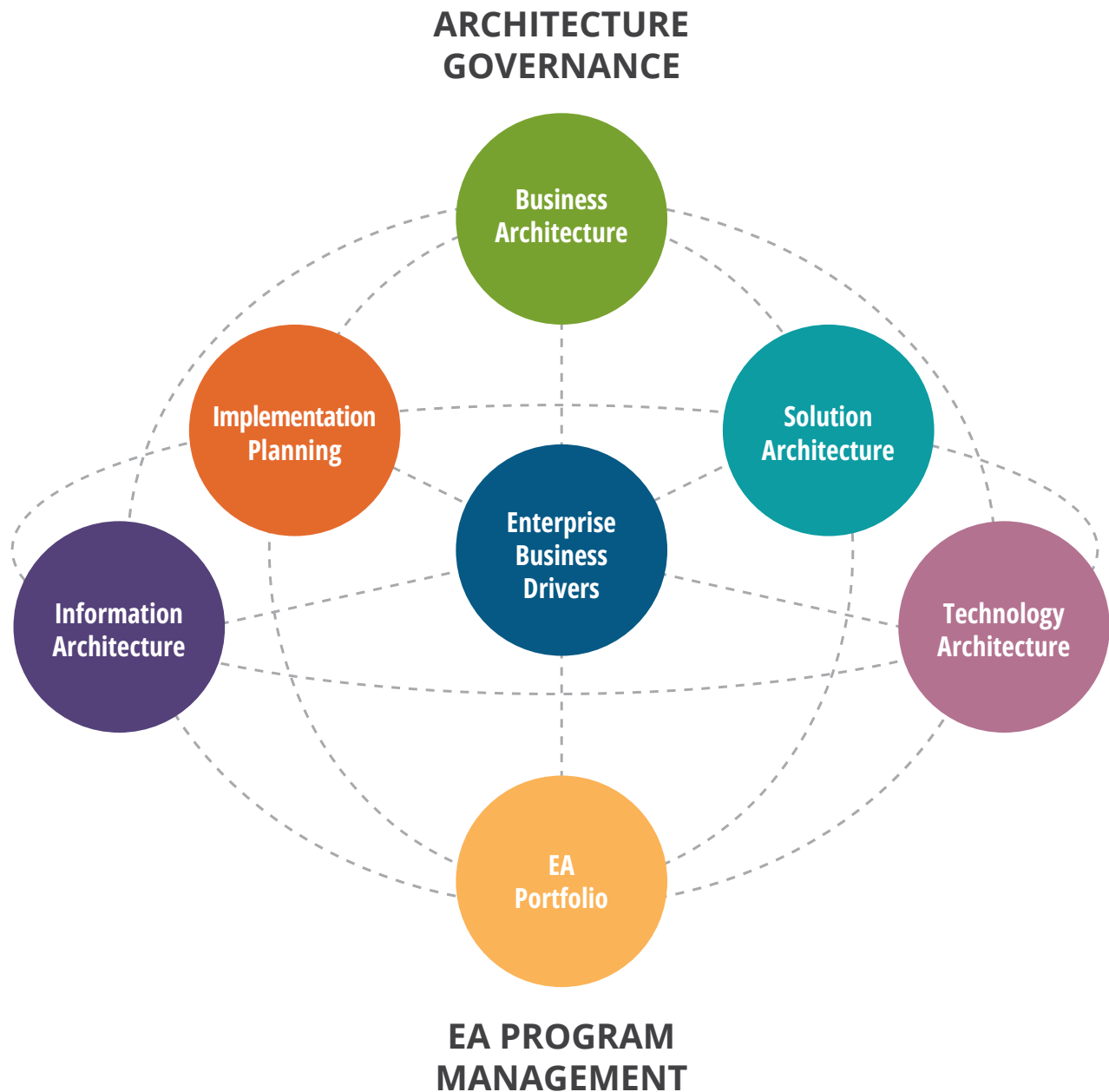


# Business Architecture: A Strategic Blueprint for State CIOs

Business architecture is a vital element for state CIOs, forming the foundation for strategy execution and continual transformation in state government. By connecting mission-driven objectives with enabling capabilities, business architecture helps to deliver positive citizen outcomes while ensuring the agility needed to respond to a rapidly evolving landscape.

# Understanding Business Architecture within the State CIO Role

State CIOs increasingly find themselves at the center of government transformation efforts, acting as strategic enablers rather than solely IT leaders. To excel in this evolving role, CIOs must understand and leverage business architecture as a key component of the broader **enterprise architecture (EA) ecosystem**.



*[NASCIO Enterprise Architecture Framework](#)*

# The Value of Business Architecture in State Government

## 1. From Mission to Strategy:

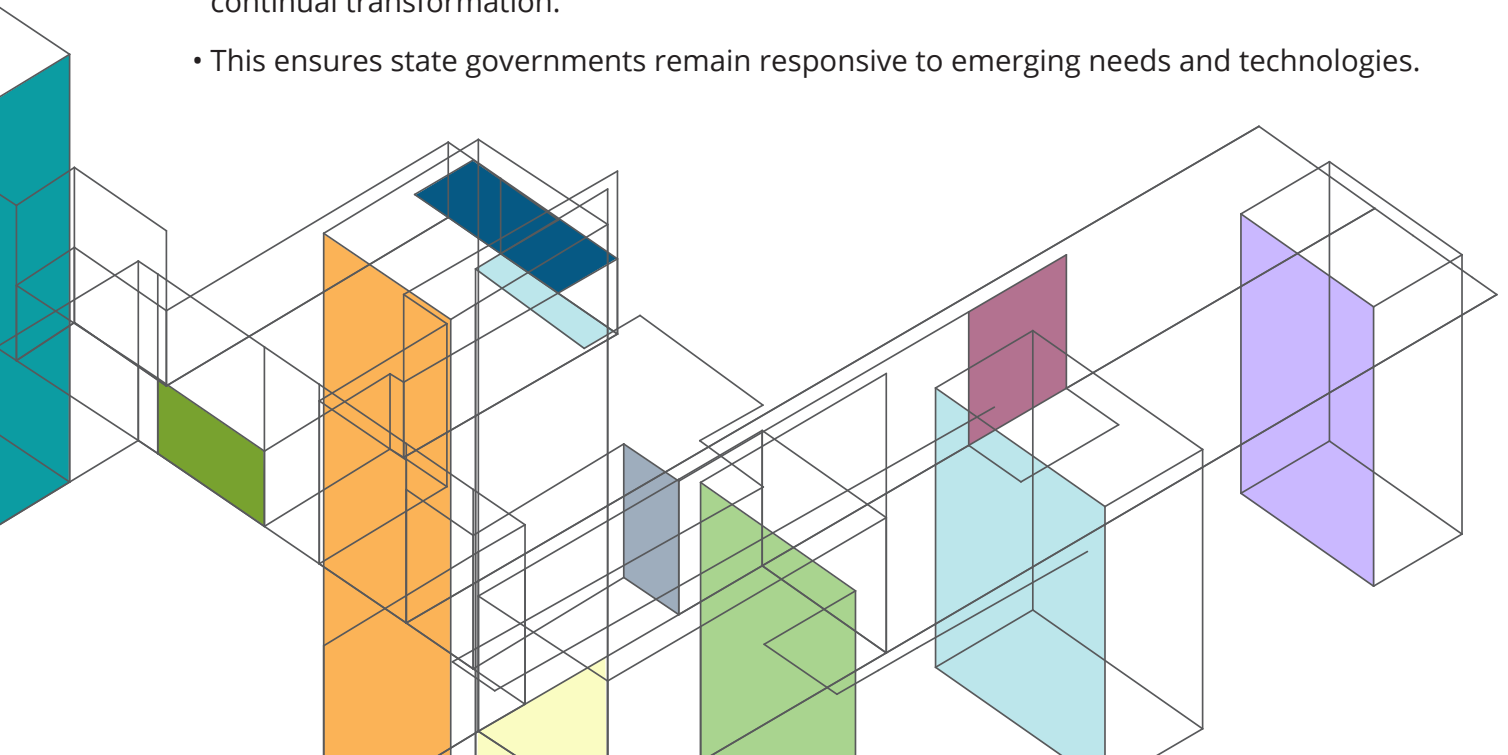
- Business architecture bridges the gap between a state's mission and its strategic objectives.
- It enables alignment between high-level policy goals and operational capabilities, ensuring resources are directed where they create the most value.
- Business architecture provides the necessary guidance to the other component architectures within enterprise architecture ensuring alignment of investments with strategic intent.

## 2. Enabling Capabilities for Citizen Outcomes:

- By defining and optimizing core capabilities, business architecture supports the delivery of services that directly improve citizen experiences.
- For example, it identifies opportunities for reuse, resource sharing, interoperability and even integration of services across agencies, fostering a citizen-centric approach rather than siloed solutions.
- Business architecture enables the effective engagement of resources within the state CIO's office and agencies to deliver business and technology capabilities through effectively orchestrated projects, programs and management initiatives.

## 3. Continuous Transformation Management:

- Transformation is not a one-time effort; it's an ongoing journey. Business architecture provides a structured framework to assess current capabilities, identify gaps, and prioritize investments for continual transformation.
- This ensures state governments remain responsive to emerging needs and technologies.



# A Collaborative Call to Action

State CIO offices must embrace a collaborative mindset to realize the full potential of business architecture. Here's how collaboration within the NASCIO community can drive this forward:

- **Set the Stage:** Establish a shared understanding and commitment to the value of business architecture and its relevance to state government.
- **Present a Compelling Message:** Communicate the principles of business architecture and their relevance to state government.
- **Share Best Practices:** Leverage collective insights from states and corporate partners that have successfully implemented business architecture to support transformational outcomes.
- **Develop a Roadmap:** Create a unified approach to integrating business architecture into enterprise architecture ecosystems.
- **Stay connected with NASCIO:** Participate in NASCIO's Enterprise Architecture & Governance Working Group. Download what NASCIO has already published on enterprise architecture. <https://www.nascio.org/resource-center/>

## What's Next

To further explore this critical topic, we will present a series of articles that will:

### **1. Define Business Architecture in the Context of State Government:**

- Highlight the unique challenges and opportunities faced by state CIOs.
- Explore the integration of business architecture within enterprise architecture frameworks.

### **2. Showcase Real-World Applications:**

- Present case studies where business architecture has enabled transformation, delivered positive citizen outcomes, and supported agile decision-making.

### **3. Provide Practical Guidance:**

- Offer actionable steps for state CIOs to begin their business architecture journey, including tools, templates, and governance models.

### **4. Promote Collaboration:**

- Detail the role of cross-agency partnerships, public-private collaborations, and NASCIO as an enabler of shared success.

## Conclusion

Business architecture is not merely a technical framework; it is a strategic enabler for state CIOs to lead transformation, align strategy with citizen outcomes, and maintain agility in a constantly changing environment. The time is now for state CIOs and the NASCIO community to champion business architecture as a core component of their enterprise architecture ecosystem.

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### **About NASCIO**

*Founded in 1969, the National Association of State Chief Information Officers (NASCIO) represents state chief information officers (CIOs) and information technology (IT) executives and managers from the states, territories and District of Columbia. NASCIO's mission is to foster government excellence through quality business practices, information management and technology policy. NASCIO provides state CIOs and state members with products and services designed to support the challenging role of the state CIO, stimulate the exchange of information and promote the adoption of IT best practices and innovations. From national conferences to peer networking, research and publications, briefings and government affairs, NASCIO is the premier network and resource for state CIOs. For more information, visit [www.NASCIO.org](http://www.NASCIO.org).*