



Appendix B: Approved Uses

Appendix B includes details and information on the approved uses of the Data Framework. If the approved purposes or access areas change for the Data Framework, this Appendix will be updated accordingly.

The various capabilities delivered by the Data Framework will provide value across many DHS mission areas. Authorization to use the Framework is granted by evaluating the authorities and policies relating to that mission as individuals or systems access the data in the Data Framework.

There are three broad purposes defined for controlling access to the Data Framework.

1. **Benefits and Authorizations** - Benefits are programs, projects, services, and activities provided by DHS that directly assist individuals or groups of individuals. Authorizations are grants of permission to engage in specified activities that are proscribed by law or otherwise regulated.
2. **Law Enforcement** - Activities directed toward the preservation of public order and safety, including protection of persons and property (real and other) in accordance with a statutory authority.
3. **National Security** - The comprehensive program of integrated policies and procedures for the departments, agencies, and functions of the United States Government aimed at protecting the territory, population, infrastructure, institutions, values, and global interests of the Nation.

To ensure the appropriate level of control, each of these broad categories is more specifically defined to ensure the proper level of data safeguarding and to ensure that the purposes tie back to specific authorities.



Current Data Framework Approved Uses

1. **Benefits & Authorizations:**

- a. **Immigration Benefits** - The conferral, certification, change, adjustment, or extension of any status granted under the Immigration and Nationality Act.¹

2. **Law Enforcement:** The Data Framework has not added any users for law enforcement purposes.

3. **National Security:**

- a. **Counter Terrorism** - The deterrence, prevention, preemption of, or response to terrorism, terrorists, or terrorist attacks against the United States. Terrorism refers to any activity that (1) involves an act that (a) is dangerous to human life or potentially destructive of critical infrastructure or key resources; and (b) is a violation of the criminal laws of the United States or of any State or other subdivision of the United States; and (2) appears to be intended (a) to intimidate or coerce a civilian population; (b) to influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion; or (c) to affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination, or kidnapping.²
- b. **Border Security** - The protection of U.S. borders from the illegal movement of weapons, drugs, contraband, and people, while promoting lawful entry and exit, to include the disruption and dismantling of transnational organizations that engage in smuggling and trafficking across the U.S. border.

¹ 8 U.S.C. § 1572.

² 6 U.S.C. § 121(d)(8) and § 101(16).