

Open Civic Standards Domain Special Interest Group Charter

June 18, 2021

OMG's Open Civic Standards Domain Special Interest Group (OCS DSIG) will promote the adoption of vertical specifications under the Open Civic Architectural Framework (OCAF) that standardize digital infrastructure for government and civic service delivery.

OCAF is an open reference architecture for public sector digital system transformation and development. The architecture provides a replicable framework for secure, interoperable data exchange and digital service delivery across government entities, civic and private sector partners.

Among the goals of the OCS DSIG is freeing government and constituents at all levels (global, federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial) from:

- Proprietary system lock-in
- Procurement and contract management failure
- Duplicative infrastructure and systems integration failure
- Noncomprehensive cybersecurity
- Unstandardized and siloed data
- Loss of data rights and loss of privacy
- Unclear strategy resulting in unfocused, ineffective governance
- Technology bloat and increased IT management costs
- Minimal opportunity for civic engagement
- Antiquated civic service delivery methods

OCAF and the OCS DSIG will allow government and civic entrepreneurs to focus on programs and applications that will improve civic outcomes and constituent and community quality of life, instead of trying to solve infrastructure problems in isolation.

The OCS DSIG may, when appropriate, generate discussion papers, surveys or recommend technologies for adoption through the appropriate OMG Task Force. It will also function as a discussion group and collaborate with other OMG subgroups to identify and document use cases and requirements for public sector digital infrastructure and identify the need for civic service-related additions or revisions to those groups' existing and emerging specifications. It will seek to identify external stakeholders, including other standards development organizations, and partner with them as needed.