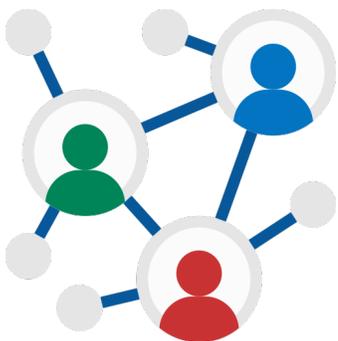# 5 ways to prepare for an **ABAC program**

Overview

As with any solution that has far-reaching impact, you'll need to prepare for an Attribute Based Access Control (ABAC) implementation. Below are some ways that companies already using ABAC used to prepare their teams and fully realize the value of this model for IAM.

1. Identify Stakeholder Roles for Planning and Implementation
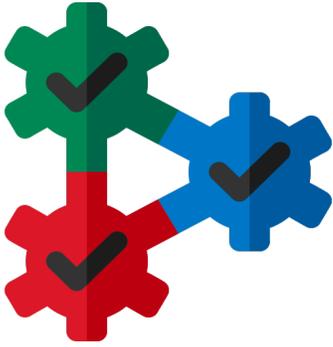
Because ABAC affects teams throughout your organization and is designed to allow a variety of individuals to have access to the same data, getting your internal teams on board is a critical step. For many organizations, the shift to using a policy-based approach involves changing legacy process for how access control and authorization are handled. This will involve changing the mindset of the developers, the IT folks, the asset owners and business line managers. We call this the non-technical challenge of ABAC.

2. Document Security and Business Scenarios

Since ABAC is fundamentally a security solution, you'll want to make sure the various security and business applications you're already running are accounted for in the planning. Not only will you be able to streamline existing security infrastructure, but you'll also be able to accomplish more complex authorization rules and policy enforcement.

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3. Review Technology Needs That Will Support Or Flank ABAC

ABAC's power is in part due to its ability to centralize access control, and help organizations scale over time. As part of the initial implementation, a review of the technology that's in place and scoping necessary additions to the existing stack will help ensure a smooth transition. For example, ABAC works well with federated identity solutions and easily integrates with API gateways.

4. Scope out the Application(s) that are to be Secured First

As part of the test phase, you'll want to carefully choose a pilot application to get the project started. This application choice will set the standard you apply moving forward, and also reflect immediate ROI in streamlining the roll-out of ABAC.
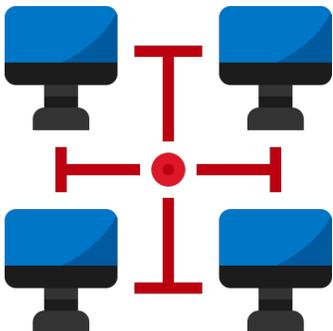
5. Determine Functional and Nonfunctional Requirements

When it comes to a an access control model like ABAC, it's important that everyone is in agreement of the success factors when it comes to the functional and nonfunctional requirements of the implementation, specifically policy creation. Functional requirements will drive the execution of your ABAC solution - who gets to see what when and where. An example would be the amount of information a doctor sees vs. a receptionist when they're both using the same platform to interact with a patient's medical records. Nonfunctional requirements is where your IT leads will have the most to say. This generally includes topics such as hosting, disaster recovery plans, and general usability. But there is also further depth to consider for usability considerations, performance expectations at the same level of deployment issues like disaster recovery.

About Axiomatics

Axiomatics is the originator and leading provider of runtime, fine-grained authorization delivered with attribute-based access control (ABAC) for applications, data, APIs and microservices. The company's Orchestrated Authorization strategy enables enterprises to effectively and efficiently connect Axiomatics' award-winning authorization platform to critical security implementations, such as Zero Trust or identity-first security. The world's largest enterprises and government agencies continually depend on Axiomatics' award-winning authorization platform to share sensitive, valuable and regulated digital assets — but only to authorized users and in the right context.

To learn more, please visit our website or follow us on **LinkedIn, Twitter,** and **YouTube.**

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