# An Update on NYSED's Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS) Initiative

**A Presentation to the Board of Regents**

December 2025

New York State
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
Knowledge › Skill › Opportunity

# Overview of the Conversation

# *What is an SLDS?*

# Why Does New York Need an SLDS?

Evidence-Based Policymaking

Identify Service Gaps and Opportunities

Measure True Impact

*Creating an SLDS is fundamentally about serving people, not simply a technology project.*

# The Department's Federal SLDS Grant

**1** Establish Data Security Protocols

**2** Connect P-12 to Professional Licensure

**3** Link P-12 to Postsecondary Systems

**4** Demonstrate Data Visualization

# SLDS Grant: Security Infrastructure

We are meeting or exceeding the most rigorous security standards applicable to educational, health, and federal data systems.
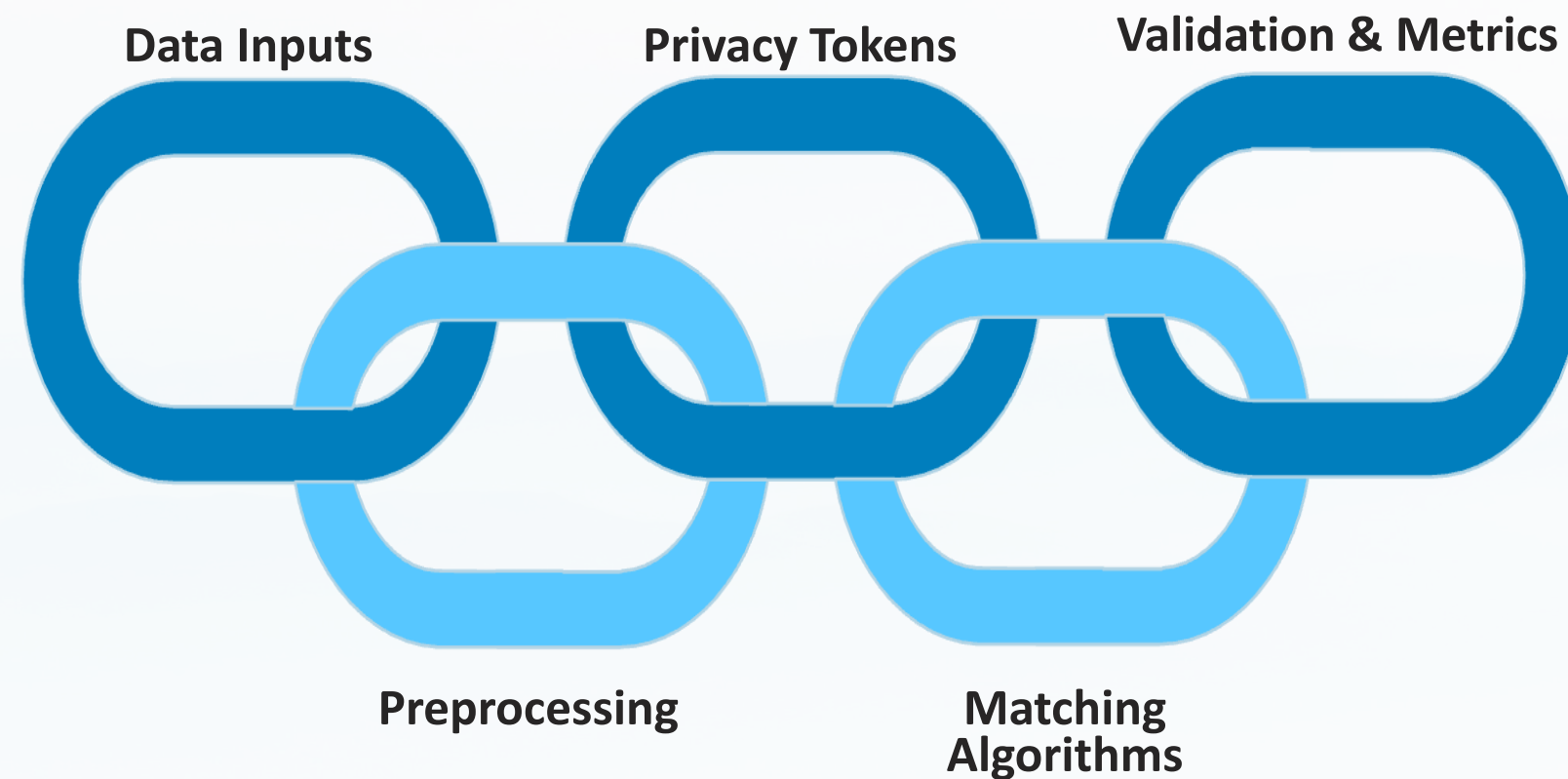
| Federal Security Standards | Privacy Compliance |
| Zero-Trust Architecture | Independent Validation |

# SLDS Grant: Records Linkage



Data Inputs

Privacy Tokens

Validation & Metrics

Preprocessing

Matching Algorithms

Probabilistic Matching

Privacy-Preserving Techniques

# SLDS Grant Proof of Concept: Connecting P-12 & Professions

The Challenge

Our Approach

Insights Gained

# SLDS Grant: Learnings to Date

| | |
|---|---|
| **Validated Approach** | **Scaling and Maturation** |
| **CTE Programs Exploration** | **Expanding to Second Proof of Concept** |

# SLDS Strategic Partnerships



**Governor's Office**

**WestEd**

**Data Quality Campaign**

**Education Commission of the States**

# SLDS Inter-Agency Collaborations

**Spring 2025 Stakeholder Engagement: Bringing Diverse Voices Together**

# SLDS Inter-Agency Collaborations

**Creating a Roadmap for Responsible SLDS Development**

**1** Learning from Success

**2** Addressing Privacy Concerns

**3** Identifying Priority Users
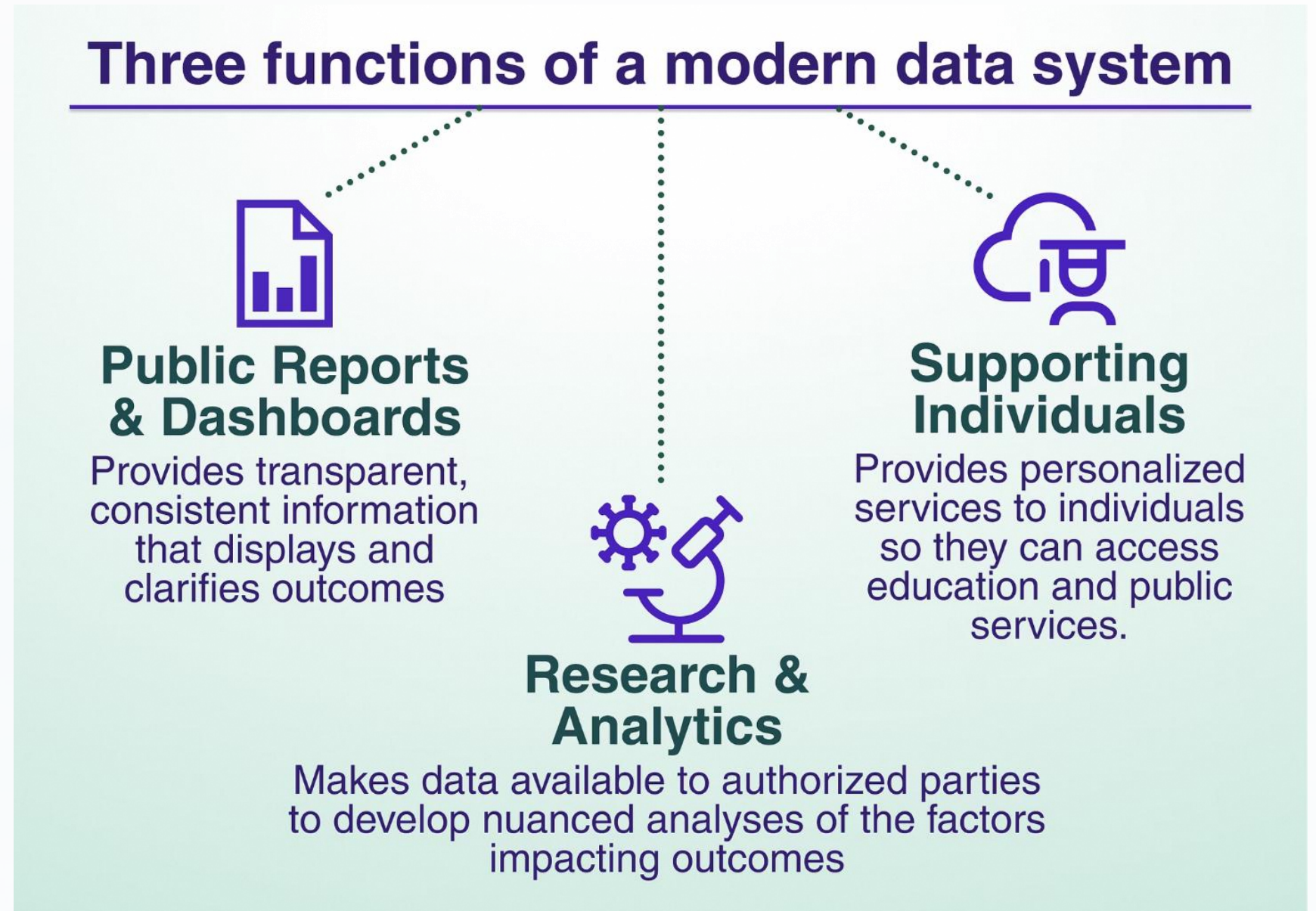
**4** Governance Requirements
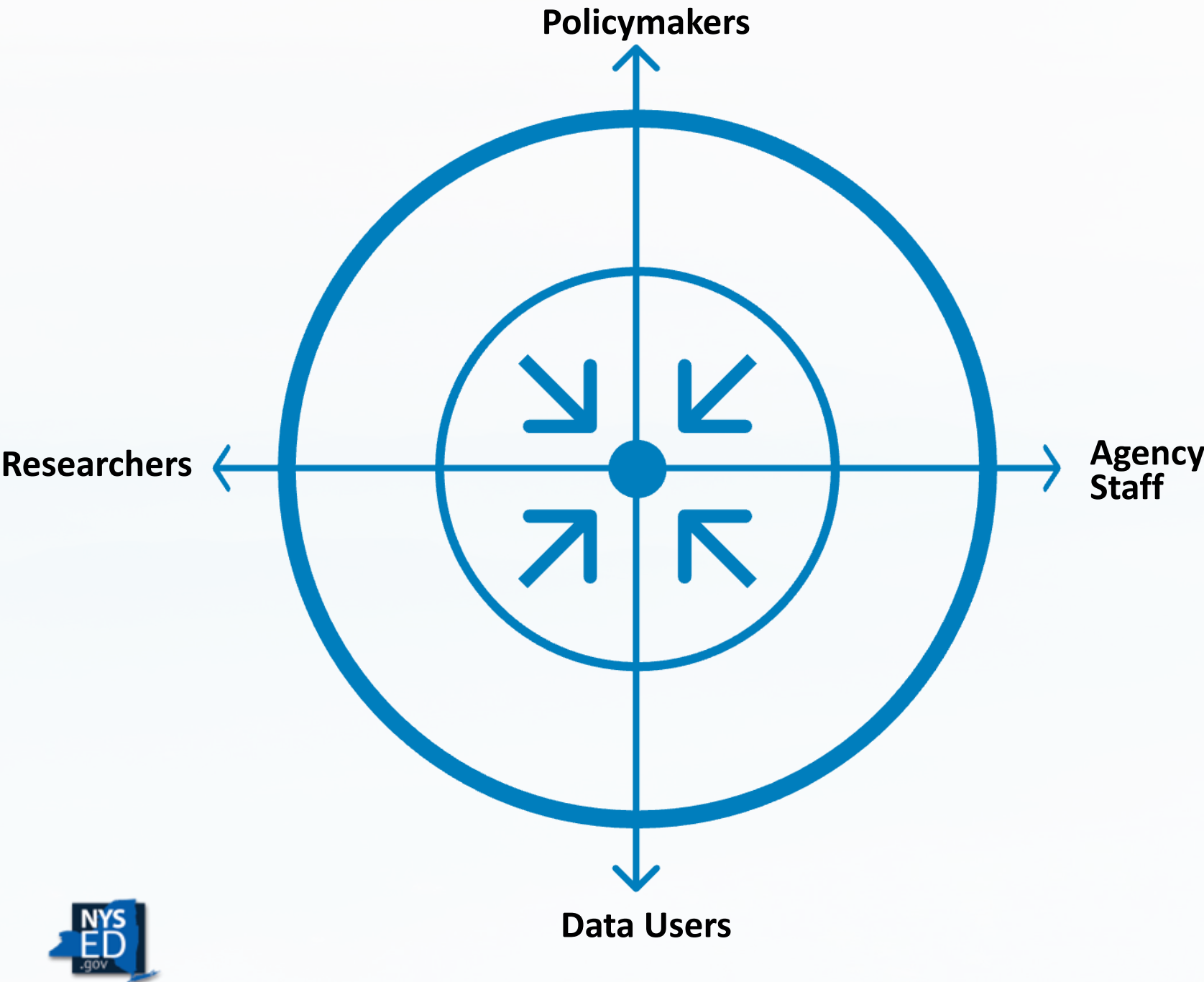
**5** Finding Early Wins

**6** Governance Development

# SLDS Inter-Agency Collaborations

## Prioritize the Research & Analytics Function



**Three functions of a modern data system**

**Public Reports & Dashboards**
Provides transparent, consistent information that displays and clarifies outcomes

**Research & Analytics**
Makes data available to authorized parties to develop nuanced analyses of the factors impacting outcomes

**Supporting Individuals**
Provides personalized services to individuals so they can access education and public services.

# SLDS Inter-Agency Collaborations



Policymakers

Researchers

Agency Staff

Data Users

Build Governance Through Collaboration

# SLDS Inter-Agency Collaborations

**Proposed Structure: The Steering Committee**

Comprehensive Representation

Strategic Direction

Decision Authority

# SLDS Inter-Agency Collaborations

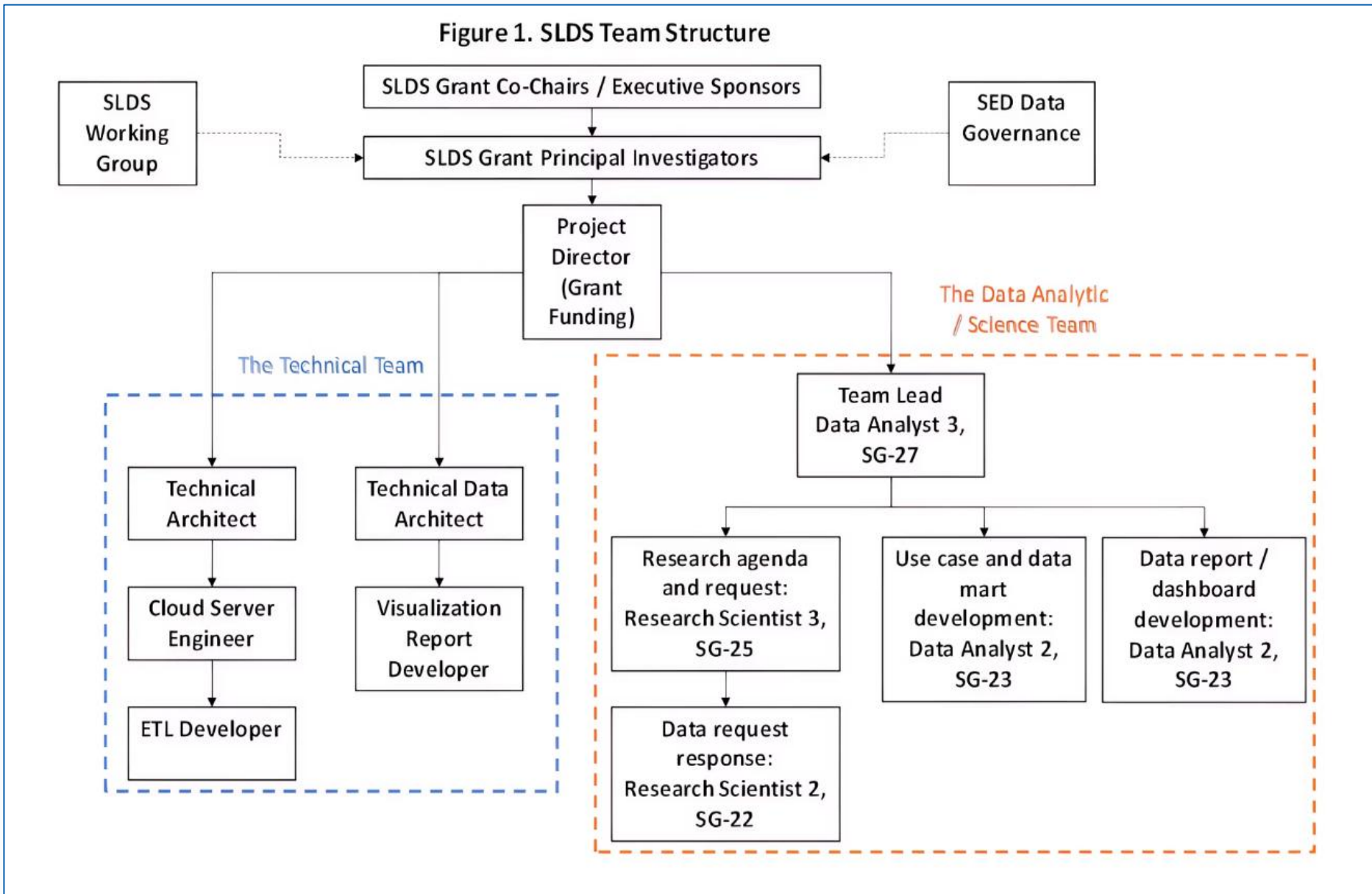**Proposed Structure: Specialized Task Forces**

| | |
|---|---|
| Legal Task Force | Technology, Privacy & Security Task Force |
| Research Agenda Task Force | Research Request Task Force |
| Governance Task Force | SLDS Administration Task Force |

# Next Steps: Continuing Collaboration

✓ Research and Analytics Function

✓ Committee-Based Governance Process

✓ Cross-Agency Commitment

# Next Steps: Requested Staffing



Figure 1. SLDS Team Structure

Core Leadership

Technical Expertise

Stakeholder Engagement

Research and Analysis

# QUESTIONS?

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