



Workplace Considerations for the Long Term

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In today's world, it is important to define the role of the physical workplace. The workplace should be an adaptive environment that supports an employee's physical and emotional well-being while enhancing overall workplace culture.

Based on research with industry and academic partners, GSA offers robust future-workspace considerations for the federal workforce.

On average, the life cycle for workspaces and furniture is 10 years. If your workspace is nearing the end of that cycle or your operations have altered, then we strongly suggest that your agency conduct a workplace engagement. This structured visioning can help ensure that your physical workplace supports new considerations and work methods; we can support workplace visioning through activities that include workplace engagements, change management, and defining furniture solutions.

Technology will play an even more important role in the future workplace. Technology's lifecycle is short—only 18 months on average. To support a sharp increase in telework and video conferencing, consider whether your agency has the technology to support this change. GSA's [Federal Acquisition Service](#) can assist with technology procurement and services.

The modern workplace is ever-evolving, and current events are accelerating that trajectory. **The office will still exist in the future, but perhaps for a different purpose.** It may be a place where people primarily go to collaborate, attend meetings, and connect with others, rather than a place to complete individual tasks. To accommodate whatever forces shape the office landscape, furniture solutions should be a kit-of-parts that can respond to change through easy reconfiguration and customization. An increased demand for telework, flexible scheduling, and collaborative technology tools is just the beginning. GSA has resources to help you ensure your physical space supports the employee and the office culture of the future.

If you don't know where to start, GSA's [Center for Workplace Strategy](#) can provide your agency with access to contract design assistance and tools to optimize your workplace. If you need help evaluating long-term solutions or starting change management, or if you are ready to work with us, please contact us at workplace@gsa.gov.

