

## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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### UAlbany Center Expands Guidebook for Making Smart Government IT Choices

Albany, NY - From the largest Federal government agencies to the smallest municipalities, decisions about when and how to invest in information technology (IT) have never been more important. Because of this the University at Albany's Center for Technology in Government released a new section to one of its most popular projects "***Making Smart IT Choices: Understanding Value and Risk in Government IT Investments.***"

This section entitled "***Skills, Techniques and Tools***" does two main things: it first looks at the general skills needed for working with groups and presenting to an audience by showing an organization what these skills are, what they can do, and what their limitations are. The second accomplishment is the presentation of tools that help organizations work through each of the three phases of analysis that lead to the creation of a business case.

"One of the most difficult decisions government managers must make in today's e-government environment is how to invest effectively in technology that will actually help program and policy initiatives succeed," said center Director Sharon Dawes. "By focusing on both value and risks, Making Smart IT Choices can help government agencies make the best use of scarce taxpayer dollars."

This publication combines information-gathering strategies with a business case design framework that CTG produced initially for the U.S. Department of Justice. Taken together, the guidebook provides an all around resource for leaders who are embarking on new e-government (IT) projects. ***Making Smart IT Choices*** is part of a series of CTG resources designed to support the use of information and information technology in government. All these resources are available at <http://www.ctg.albany.edu/publications/>.

The Center for Technology in Government is an applied research center devoted to improving government and public services through policy, management, and technology innovation. The Center, located at the University at Albany, works with government to develop well-informed information strategies that foster innovation and enhances the quality and coordination of public services.

*Established in 1844 and designated a center of the State University of New York in 1962, the University at Albany's broad mission of excellence in undergraduate and graduate education, research and public service engages 17,000 diverse students in eight degree-granting schools and colleges. The University has launched a \$500 million fundraising campaign, the most ambitious in its history, with the goal of placing it among the nation's top 30 public research universities by the end of the decade. For more information about this nationally ranked University, visit [www.albany.edu](http://www.albany.edu).*