**Class Summary**

The responsibilities of this classification include serving as a lead designer within a service or domain of application and integrating knowledge for providing design and consulting to continually evolve the applications in the County’s portfolio to provide enterprise wide business functionality. Solution Architect - Application act both as independent contributors, and as part of a team performing application and integration systems analysis, design, and implementation of complex cross-department, and cross-domain applications while serving a critical role in ensuring a well architected application portfolio, Service Oriented Architecture (SOA) and supporting modernization efforts. Incumbents are responsible for the build-out, documentation, and institutionalization of the use of the application architecture within their domain.

**Distinguishing Characteristics**

This is the first level in a two-level Architect - Application classification series. Incumbents in this classification serve as the highest level application domain or application technologies expert applying a broad knowledge of both application industry and County applications to participate in teams setting County application standards, best practices, reference architectures, solution patterns and policies. This Architect works closely with management and technical experts in developing solutions using SaaS, COTS, or internal development to support the long-term business needs of the County.

This classification is distinguished from the Enterprise Architect – Application in that the Solution Architect – Application focuses on the design and interoperability of the applications within a subset of the County’s portfolio, or within a given domain of business, application or integration technologies. This classification is distinguished from other application-related series in that it serves as the County’s recognized domain-level application subject matter expert. This class is responsible for providing direction to staff on how to best apply the components that comprise the County’s enterprise architecture (EA) framework.

**Examples of Duties**

1. Collaborate with the Enterprise Architect- Application, peer architects, service owners, and other technical staff in determining the optimum design for SaaS, COTS, and in-house developed solutions.
2. Lead the design of the application and integration of SOA services within the architect’s domain of expertise. Provide designs for complex, high impact development, integration and migration projects.
3. Serve as a technical expert on application and integration technologies and approaches; guide technical staff on advanced issues.
4. Participate in the EA Initiative process for the definition of major components of the County’s application architecture.
5. Participate in architecture reviews including, but not limited to, conceptual, design, and vetting reviews.
6. Consult with internal or external customers and IT staff to help match solution patterns to business and technical requirements and to ensure applications are selected, designed, and implemented in a way that optimizes the County’s application portfolio.
7. Participate on teams developing standards, best practices, solution patterns, reference architecture, and policies and processes for developing and deploying SaaS, COTS, and in-house developed applications. Review and approve project designs for compliance with architecture standards and best practices.
8. Participate in the evaluation of new application and integration technologies and ensure the architect’s domain perspective is represented.
9. Recommend technical direction, including software and related hardware architecture and application standards.
10. Advise senior IT staff and management on process improvement for application selection or development, integration, design, and implementation.
11. May develop or provide subject matter expertise on budget requests, cost/benefit analyses, technical evaluations, feasibility studies and/or proposals and Requests for Proposal or Information.
12. May coordinate complex designs or integrations involving stakeholders with conflicting interests.
13. May be called upon to provide support for significant service issues or failures at any time.
14. Create County documentation standards, including architectural processes, templates, technical diagrams, and solution design documents. Encourage the use of County standard modeling methods and communication, conducting or coordinating training on the standard methods and diagramming standards.
15. Conduct or coordinate training sessions ranging from formal classes on new technology to informal lunch and learns, and other types of training.
16. Serve as a mentor to staff seeking architecture skills as part of career development by partnering on progressively difficult projects with the support of management.
17. Perform other duties as assigned.

**Knowledge/Skills**

Expert knowledge of SaaS, COTS, and in-house development, and an understanding of the relative advantages of each

Expert knowledge of cloud and on-premise solutions and an understanding of the relative advantages of each

Expert knowledge in usage of application use cases and solution patterns

Knowledge of the County’s enterprise architecture framework and the relationship of application architecture to business, data, and technology architecture

Knowledge of EA governance processes and structures

Expert knowledge of SOA design and implementation

Knowledge in designing, implementing, and maintaining systems for core business applications

Knowledge client/server and web programming environments

Expert knowledge of integration technologies and architectures

Expert knowledge of development methodologies, software engineering and the software development life cycle

Knowledge of multiple software products, vendor packages and related technologies

Knowledge of database design and application techniques in a database environment

Advanced knowledge of customer business and systems analysis

Ability to learn and understand the complexities of the County’s business and technical environments and use this understanding to optimize architectures within the County

Skill in researching strategic issues, providing analysis and recommending emerging technologies

Skill in project management and team leadership techniques

Skill in coordinating and facilitating complex projects involving stakeholders with conflicting interests

Skill in conveying technical information to non-technical users

Skill in handling multiple competing priorities

Skill in analysis, problem solving and troubleshooting

Skill in customer service

Advanced skill in written and oral communication

Skill in working with a variety of individuals from diverse backgrounds

Ability to work independently and as a team member

Skill in using current office software programs including word processing, spreadsheet, database and email

**Education and Experience Requirements**

Bachelor’s degree in information technology/computer science or related field and five years experience as an application developer/engineer

OR any combination of education and experience that clearly demonstrates the ability to perform the job duties of the classification

**Licensing, Certification and Other Requirements**

Some licenses, certifications and other requirements determined to be necessary to meet the business needs of the employing unit may be required.

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| **FLSA Designation** | Exempt (Administrative) |
| **Service Status** | Career Service |
| **EEO Code** | 2 |
| **Levels within same series** | Solution Architect - Application  Enterprise Architect - Application |
| **Class History** | Created 05/2015 |