

The Project Management Office is the department that is saddled with the responsibility of standardizing project practices in an organisation. The department ensures that project policies are followed. They also ensure that project managers are trained on the best practices of managing projects. In this article, I want to look at three different types of Project Management Offices that PMI recommends.

#1 Supportive PMO

In an environment **where supportive PMO operates**, the Project Manager is allowed to use his initiative in managing the project. Also in this type of environment, he is provided with tools and resources that he needs to be successful in the assignment given to him.



#2 Controlling PMO

In a controlling PMO, the Project Manager does not really have a free hand to use his initiative. In such a scenario, he is closely monitored in order to be sure that he is following the rules and appropriate guidance been provided by the supervising department. **The Project Manager** is been provided with the templates, policies, rules and guidance and he is expected to follow them to the letter. He might even be sanctioned for failing to act in accordance with the dictate of the PMO.

#3 Directive PMO

In this type of PMO, the Project Manager is not really allowed to manage the Project is been managed by the Project Management Office directly. They might felt that they will achieve much success by taking over the control from the Project Manager. If there is any Project Manager at all in the Project, he will perform the role of a Project Expediter who will just monitor the activities of the project and not having decision making capabilities.

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