



Hybrid Cloud Infrastructure with Microsoft Azure Stack HCI Advanced Specialization

Program Overview and Requirements



Program updates

The updated Module A Cloud Foundation checklist, required July 1, 2022 is available [here](#).

Module B

May 2, 2022

The Module B Hybrid Cloud Infrastructure with Microsoft Azure Stack HCI audit checklist has no changes

V1.0.1 Module B Audit checklist has no changed controls or evidence

Guidance for the Definition of Proof of Concepts and Pilots is now in the FAQ

Jan 1, 2022

Guidance and FAQ updates were added to Module B

May 29, 2021

New audit fee Schedule effective July 1, 2021

Please note the new audit fee schedule effective July 1, 2021

- For audits comprised of both Modules A and B, the audit fee is \$3,000 USD
- For audits comprised of Module B alone (available for partners who previously passed Module A), the fee is \$2,000 USD

Module A

May 2, 2022

The partner Preview for the updated Module A Cloud Foundation checklist, required July 1, 2022 is available [here](#). These are the updates:

- In 1.1 a new tool is available to use for Cloud Adoption Business Strategy and Economics, (the Cloud Adoption Strategy Evaluator)
- In 2.2 a new Skilling Plan has been added to the Plan checklist. This will be required for Module A audits July 1, 2022
- In 3.1 a new optional new Deployment Approach for Azure Landing Zones, the Full Azure Landing Zone Conceptual Architecture, has been added for partners to demonstrate in deployment approaches
- Bicep has been added to use a resource when providing evidence for control 3.1 in customer environments

Program overview

Showcase your organization's validated capabilities in deploying a hyper-converged infrastructure on premises with connectivity to Microsoft Azure Cloud. The world of IT is undergoing constant change. To stay competitive, your customers need to keep up with the ever-growing complexity and relentless pace of innovation. Help them get ahead and stay there with a Hybrid Cloud Infrastructure with Microsoft Azure Stack HCI advanced specialization.

This specialization allows partners with an active [Gold Cloud Platform Competency](#) to further differentiate their organizations, demonstrate their capabilities, and build stronger connections with customers.

Partners who earn an advanced specialization will get a customer-facing label displayed on their business profile page and are prioritized in customer searches in the [Microsoft AppSource Partner Gallery](#), [Learn more about advanced specializations](#).

What are the requirements?

Eligible partners must meet the highest standards for service delivery and support. All requirements will be verified by Microsoft and/or a third-party vendor, either automatically or by manual review, and are subject to change.

Requirements	Details
Competency	Your company must have an active Gold Cloud Platform competency.
Performance	USD \$500 monthly average ACR from Azure Stack HCI, from the last three (3) months, from at least two (2) customers. ACR can be achieved through Digital Partner of Record , Partner Admin Link , and Cloud Solution Provider. <i>Government Subscriptions (i.e. Fairfax) are not eligible for ACR via PAL association</i> Learn more about Azure ACR (Service Level 2 = Azure Stack HCI)
Knowledge	Your company must have at least three (3) FTEs pass the following technical assessments. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Azure Administrator Associate• Azure Solutions Architect Expert• Azure DevOps Engineer
Audit	Your company must pass a third-party remote audit. View audit checklist .

How do I apply?

Only administrators of an organization's Microsoft partner account can submit an application for the Hybrid Cloud Infrastructure with Microsoft Azure Stack HCI advanced specialization on behalf of the organization. If you have the appropriate role and access, you can apply by signing into Partner Center and navigating to your [Partner Center Dashboard](#) > Competencies > Advanced Specialization.