



Windows Server and SQL Server Migration to Microsoft Azure Advanced Specialization

Program Overview and Requirements

Program updates and announcements

Update May 13, 2020

Performance requirement adjustment

We have updated the performance requirement effective May 29, 2020, to better reflect our partners' business models so all qualified partners have an opportunity to serve our mutual customers.

Updated requirement

Your company must show a total monthly average of USD15,000 Windows Server VM ACR aggregated from at least five customers from the previous three months.

AND

Your company must show a total monthly average of USD3,000 from SQL Managed Instance (MI), SQL Database (DB) and Server VM (IaaS) ACR aggregated from at least five customers from the previous three months. At least USD1,000 must be from SQL MI or SQL DB.

Your company should achieve ACR through Digital Partner of Record, Partner Admin Link, and Cloud Solution Provider.

Previous requirement

Your company must show customers migrating to Azure and meet the following requirements:

- Three customers must show a monthly average Azure Consumed Revenue (ACR) from the trailing three months that meets the following threshold for Windows Server migration:
 - USD10,000 Windows Server Virtual Machines (VM) ACR AND
- Three customers must show a monthly average ACR from the the trailing three months that meets the following threshold for SQL server migration:
 - USD10,000 SQL Server VM (IaaS) ACR OR
 - USD10,000 SQL Database ACR* OR
 - USD5,000 SQL Managed Instance* ACR

*At least one customer should meet these thresholds for SQL Database ACR OR SQL Managed Instance ACR.

Note: You can have the same set of three customers meeting the requirement for both Windows and SQL server or they can be different.

Your company should achieve ACR through Digital Partner of Record, Partner Admin Link, and Cloud Solution Provider.

Responding to COVID-19: Microsoft Partner Network update

Azure advanced specialization extensions

If you are currently enrolled in any of the Azure advanced specializations and have a renewal date on or before December 31, 2020, your program anniversary date will be extended to June 30, 2021. For advanced specializations that require an audit, you will be audited against the checklist that is in place at the time of your renewal audit. No immediate action is needed for these extensions. This applies to the following advanced specializations:

- Windows Server and SQL Server Migration to Microsoft Azure
- Linux and Open Source Database Migration to Microsoft Azure
- Data Warehouse Migration to Microsoft Azure
- Kubernetes on Microsoft Azure
- Modernization of Web Applications to Microsoft Azure
- SAP on Microsoft Azure

For Gavriella Schuster's full blog click [here](#).

Program overview

Partners who demonstrate deep knowledge, extensive experience, and proven success in migrating Windows Server and SQL Server-based production workloads to Microsoft Azure may seek the Windows Server and SQL Server Migration to Microsoft Azure Advanced Specialization.

Workload migration presents partners with a unique opportunity to secure long-term cloud relationships with customers, which can lead to high-value, innovative managed services that open up new and recurring revenue streams. The Windows Server and SQL Server Migration to Microsoft Azure Advanced 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 have a customer-facing label displayed on their business profile, gain access to specific go-to-market programs, and be prioritized in customer searches in the [Microsoft Partner Directory](#). For those reasons, this opportunity is available only to partners who meet additional, stringent requirements.

[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
Related competency	Must have an active Gold Cloud Platform Competency
Performance	Your company must show a total monthly average of USD 15,000 Windows Server VM ACR aggregated from at least five customers from the previous three months AND Your company must show a total monthly average of USD 3,000 from SQL Managed Instance (MI) , SQL Database (DB) and Server VM (IaaS) ACR aggregated from at least five customers from the previous three months. At least USD 1,000 must be from SQL MI or SQL DB. <i>Your company should achieve ACR through Digital Partner of Record, Partner Admin Link, and Cloud Solution Provider.</i>
Knowledge	Your organization must have five individuals who pass the following certifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• One unique individual must pass Azure Administrator Associate certification AND• One unique individual must pass Azure Solutions Architect Expert certification AND• One unique individual must pass Azure DevOps Engineer Expert certification AND• One unique individual must pass Azure Security Engineer Associate certification AND• One unique individual must pass Azure Data Engineer Associate certification
Audit	Pass a third-party remote audit. See audit checklist for more details.

* Advanced specializations can be activated in Partner Center only. If you have not yet moved your membership account from Partner Membership Center (PMC) to Partner Center, please sign in to PMC and follow the instructions. Once you've moved your account, you can review the requirements and begin working toward earning the advanced specialization.

How do I apply?

Only administrators of an organization's Microsoft partner account can submit an application for the Windows Server and SQL Server Migration to Microsoft Azure Advanced Specialization on behalf of the organization. If you have the appropriate role and access, you can apply [here](#). If you're still in PMC, work with your Partner Development Manager (PDM) to migrate to Partner Center. If you do not have a PDM, you can visit the support page [here](#) for instructions. Once you're fully migrated, you can apply through your Partner Center dashboard.