**Cloud Computing Software Requirements and Installation**

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1. This installation is supported only for Windows 7 Professional Edition or higher.

2. Start at Azure developers download site <http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/windowsazure/cc974146.aspx> . It displays the latest downloads, fixes, and new tools, so you probably want to bookmark it and visit it periodically to see what’s new.

3. If you don’t already have Visual Studio 2012 any edition, then perform Step 1, “Install Visual Web Developer 2012 Express Edition (optional)”. It’s free, and it’s not optional for you if you don’t have VS 2012. The link is currently <http://www.microsoft.com/express/web/> . Alternatively, students may visit [www.dreamspark.com](http://www.dreamspark.com), a Microsoft site at which they may register to receive free professional tools.

4. After finishing or skipping the previous step, then perform Step 2, “Install Windows Azure Tools for Microsoft Visual Studio 1.8 ”. The link is currently <http://download.microsoft.com/DOWNLOAD/1/F/9/1F96D60F-EBE9-44CB-BD58-88C2EC14929E/VSCLOUDSERVICE.EXE> .

5. You will probably also want the Windows Azure Training Kit, which contains many useful examples and demonstrations. The link is currently <http://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkID=130354> .