Licensing Microsoft servers in the cloud

Deployment options

Network server

Scenario:

Hardware owned and managed by the customer, dedicated to that customer's use

Licensing Choices	
VL licenses without SA	✓
VL licenses with SA	✓
CSP Server Subscriptions	✓
CSP perpetual licenses	✓

Details:

All server products are eligible

Authorized Outsourcer

Scenario:

Hardware dedicated to the customer's use, managed by an Authorized Outsourcer. An Authorized Outsourcer is a partner providing dedicated solutions who isn't a Listed Provider

Licensing Choices	
VL licenses without SA	✓
VL licenses with SA	✓
CSP Server Subscriptions	✓
CSP perpetual licenses	✓

Details:

All server products are eligible

Listed Provider

Scenario:

Dedicated host cloud services provided by Alibaba, Amazon, or Google

Licensing Choices	
VL licenses without SA	✗
VL licenses with SA	✓
CSP Server Subscriptions	✗
CSP perpetual licenses	✗

Details:

Products must be eligible for the License Mobility through SA benefit. Most products are included, but Windows Server **is not**

Azure Dedicated Host

Scenario:

Microsoft's dedicated hardware solution when acting as a Listed Provider

Licensing Choices	
VL licenses without SA	✗
VL licenses with SA	✓
CSP Server Subscriptions	✓
CSP perpetual licenses	✗

Details:

Products must be eligible for the License Mobility through SA benefit, or the Azure Hybrid Benefit. Windows Server **is** included via the Azure Hybrid Benefit

Authorized Mobility Partner

Scenario:

Multi-tenant solutions provided by Authorized Mobility Partners. An Authorized Mobility Partner is also called a License Mobility through SA partner

Licensing Choices	
VL licenses without SA	✗
VL licenses with SA	✓
CSP Server Subscriptions	✗
CSP perpetual licenses	✗

Details:

Products must be eligible for the License Mobility through SA benefit. Most products are included, but Windows Server **is not**

Azure shared hardware

Scenario:

Microsoft's multi-tenant solutions in Azure when acting as an Authorized Mobility Partner

Licensing Choices	
VL licenses without SA	✗
VL licenses with SA	✓
CSP Server Subscriptions	✓
CSP perpetual licenses	✗

Details:

Products must be eligible for the License Mobility through SA benefit, or the Azure Hybrid Benefit. Windows Server **is** included via the Azure Hybrid Benefit

License Mobility through SA

Eligibility:

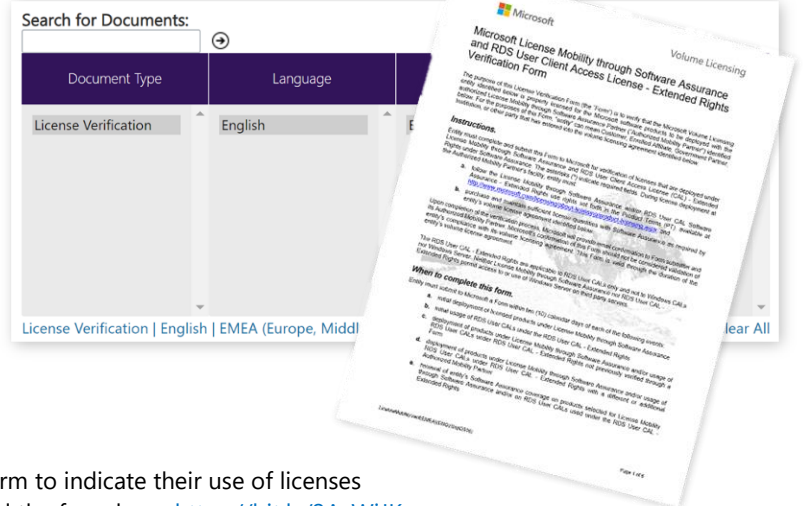- Product eligibility is detailed at the Product Terms website

Applicable products:

- Exchange, SharePoint, Skype for Business Server, Project Server
- Dynamics 365 Operations Server, BizTalk Server, System Center
- SQL Server

Notable exceptions:

- Windows Server

Process:

- Customers must complete the License Verification form to indicate their use of licenses through the License Mobility through SA benefit. Find the form here: https://bit.ly/2AzWiJK

Azure Hybrid Benefit

Find out more about the Azure Hybrid Benefit in these modules on Get Licensing Ready:

Applicable products:

- Windows Server and SQL Server
- Licenses purchased through a Volume Licensing agreement must have active Software Assurance. Server Subscriptions purchased through CSP also include this benefit
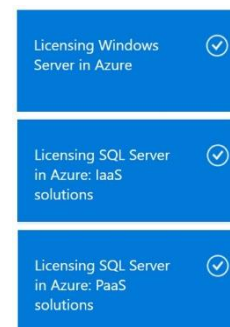
Licensing virtual machines:

- Licenses may be assigned to virtual machines running in Azure Dedicated Host or on Azure shared hardware
- License minimums:
    Windows Server – 8 Core licenses per virtual machine
    SQL Server – 4 Core licenses per virtual machine

Azure SQL database service:

- SQL Server licenses may alternatively be used to cover Azure SQL database virtual cores

Licensing Windows Server in Azure ⊘

Licensing SQL Server in Azure: IaaS solutions ⊘

Licensing SQL Server in Azure: PaaS solutions ⊘

Azure Dedicated Host

Overview:

- Azure Dedicated Host is an Azure service that provides physical servers, able to host one or more Azure virtual machines for Windows or Linux, which are dedicated to a single organization and their workloads
- The server capacity is not shared with other customers

Licensing the host:

- A type of Azure Dedicated Host is chosen and paid for on a pay-as-you-go basis or with a Reservation
- Each Azure Dedicated Host type is restricted to a single virtual machine family. Any virtual machines from the family can be chosen within the core capacity limits of the host ie the total of the virtual machine cores cannot exceed the available vCPUS of the host

Licensing the virtual machine software:

1. Via a meter based on usage
2. Bring existing licenses via the Azure Hybrid Benefit and follow the usual rules for licensing individual virtual machines
3. Bring existing licenses via the Azure Hybrid Benefit, and license all of the available cores in the physical host for unlimited virtualization for Windows Server Datacenter and SQL Server Enterprise licenses