- **Premium P1:** For $6 per user per month, you get additional features such as custom password restrictions, the ability to limit access to certain computers and/or certain hours, and more.
- **Premium P2:** Even more features for $9 per user per month.

Here are some additional details to ponder about AAD:

- Just as cloud applications are often called SaaS, AAD is sometimes referred to as *Identity Management as a Service* (IDaaS). I think some people just love to tack things in front of "as a Service."
- AAD can run in hybrid mode, in which case it cooperates with your existing on-premises Active Directory servers. Or, you can run it in Standalone mode and eliminate your on-premises Active Directory servers.
- Setting up AAD is not for the faint-of-heart or the uninitiated. You'll need the help of a qualified systems engineer to get the job done right.

Single sign-on

Another way to improve the continuity between your on-premises Active Directory and your cloud identities is to deploy a single sign-on (SSO) solution. As its name suggests, *single sign-on* refers to the ability to log in once to an identity provider and have that identity provider handle your logins to other services. When SSO is properly implemented, you can log in once to Windows using your Active Directory credentials. Then, your SSO platform can automatically log you in to any cloud services you use throughout the day.

Some cloud services provide SSO integration with Active Directory. For example, the popular RingCentral phone system can integrate with Active Directory so that a separate logon to RingCentral is not necessary.

But most cloud services don't provide that level of integration. To achieve real SSO, you'll need to use a third-party tool designed specifically for this purpose. One of the best known is Okta (`www.okta.com`). For a small monthly per-user fee, Okta can manage sign-ons for thousands of cloud applications.

Figure 26-2 shows a typical Okta dashboard, which provides single-click access to a variety of cloud services. These services have been configured by an account administrator to allow the user to access the services that he or she needs. So, Okta allows IT to control access to cloud services and shields the user from the task of managing his or her service account.