



# Microsoft Azure Virtual Desktop Advanced Specialization

Program Overview and Requirements

# Program updates

## Updates May 2, 2022

### Module B

#### The name of the audit is changing

The Microsoft Windows Virtual Desktop Advanced Specialization name is changing to Microsoft Azure Virtual Desktop (AVD) advanced specialization on July 1, 2022

**More resources have been added in the Module B checklist to provide customer evidence examples in controls, and Guidance for the definition of Proof of Concepts and Pilots has been added to the FAQ**

### Module A

**The partner Preview for the updated Module A Cloud Foundation checklist is available [here](#).** These changes in effect July 1, 2022:

- 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 is required for Module A audits on 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.

### Module B updates

#### July 1, 2021

#### New audit checklist V2.0

Microsoft released the V2.0 audit checklist into preview on May 5, 2021 for the Windows Virtual Desktop Advanced Specialization. V2.0 went into effect July 1, 2021. **What's New:**

We introduced a new modular format to the Azure advanced specialization audit, built on the Cloud Adoption Framework for Azure. The format has been broken into two modules:

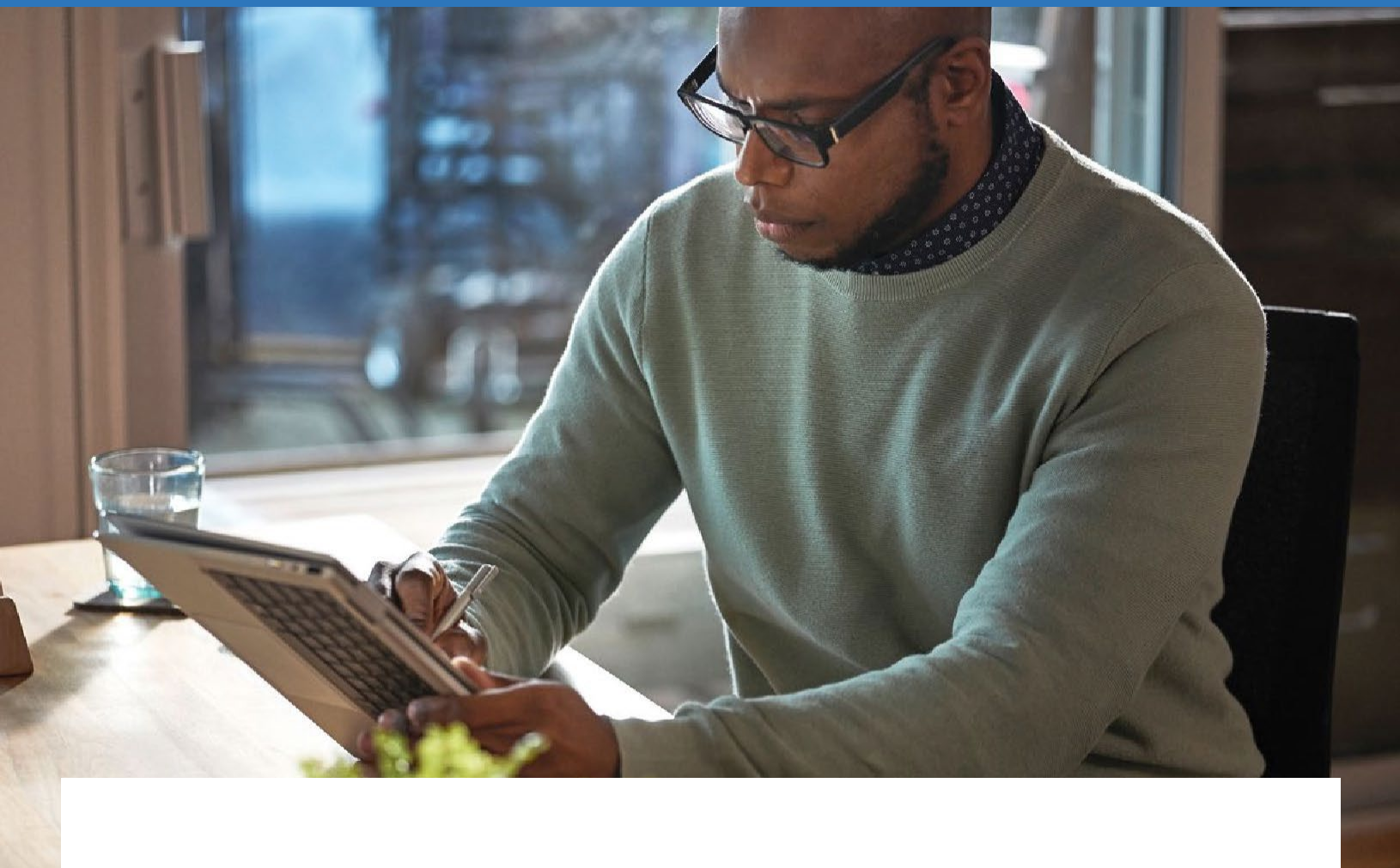
- Module A evaluates and assesses a partner's implementation of cloud adoption best practices, following foundational principles in the Cloud Adoption Framework for Azure. This module is workload-agnostic, which means a partner can audit Module A once and their passing result will apply to multiple Azure advanced specializations.
- Module B evaluates workload-specific capabilities. Microsoft periodically updates these to align to industry best practices. Module B also includes a requirement to conduct a Well-Architected Reviews of customer workloads as part of the deployment.

### May 5, 2021

#### New Audit Fee Schedule

Please note the new audit fee schedule that went into effect 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



## Program overview

Partners who demonstrate deep knowledge, extensive experience, and proven success in deploying, optimizing, and securing virtual desktop infrastructure on Azure with Azure Windows Virtual Desktop (AVD) may seek the Azure Virtual Desktop advanced specialization.

The Azure Virtual Desktop advanced specialization allows partners with an active [Gold Cloud Platform Competency](#) to further differentiate their organizations, validate their capabilities, and build stronger connections with customers.

Partners who meet the comprehensive requirements to earn an advanced specialization receive a customer-facing label they can display on their business profile in the [Microsoft AppSource Partner Gallery](#), gain access to specific Microsoft go-to-market programs, are prioritized in customer searches to drive new business, and can generate a certified letter from Microsoft that verifies the advanced specialization that they have earned. [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
<b>Competency</b>	Your company must have an active Gold Cloud Platform Competency
<b>Performance</b>	<p>Your company must show a monthly average of at least \$2,500 USD of Azure (Windows) Virtual Desktop ACR in the previous three (3) months from at least three (3) customers (aggregated from across your customers).</p> <p><a href="#">Learn more about Azure ACR</a></p> <p>ACR can be achieved through <a href="#">Digital Partner of Record</a>, <a href="#">Partner Admin Link</a>, and Cloud Solution Provider.</p> <p><i>Government subscriptions (i.e. Fairfax) are not eligible for ACR via PAL association.</i></p>
<b>Knowledge</b>	<p>Your company must have at least three (3) individuals who have passed the following certifications (each certification listed below is held by at least one individual):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Azure Security Engineer</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Azure Solutions Architect</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Azure Administrator</a></li> </ul> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>Your company must also have at least three individuals pass the WVD Technical Assessment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">AVD Partner Technical Assessment</a></li> </ul> <p>You can have a combination of the same individuals or different individuals meet both the certification requirement and the technical assessment.</p>
<b>Audit</b>	Your company must pass a third-party audit. Please see the <a href="#">audit checklist</a> for more details.

## How do I apply?

Only administrators of an organization's Microsoft partner account can submit an application for the Windows Virtual Desktop advanced specialization on behalf of the organization. If you are the administrator for your organizations' Microsoft partner account, you can apply [here](#).