



## Microsoft Body of Knowledge 2026

### Foundation level

## Recommended learning path for those new to Microsoft licensing

### Overview

The Microsoft Body of Knowledge 2026 Foundation exam is aimed at individuals who want to show that they have a basic knowledge across the licensing of Microsoft's desktop and server workloads (with the emphasis on cloud solutions), and how customers can purchase the licenses they need.

The exam must be completed in 40 minutes, and consists of 30 questions split into three sections:

- Desktop licensing
- Server licensing
- Ways to buy Microsoft licenses

Candidates with a passing score of 70% or above are awarded a digitally verifiable [Credly badge](#) demonstrating their ability to recall key licensing facts and apply their knowledge in real-world customer licensing scenarios.

This certification is especially useful in career development programs for sales, deployment, procurement, licensing specialist, and SAM professionals.

### Topics

#### Licensing the desktop products

- Windows 11 and Office 2024
- SharePoint Server SE and Exchange Server SE
- Office 365 and EMS
- Microsoft 365 Business and Enterprise
- Windows 365 and Azure Virtual Desktop
- Dynamics 365 CRM and ERP apps
- Flexible Virtualization Benefit

#### Licensing the server products

- Windows Server virtual machines: on-premises and in Azure
- SQL Server virtual machines: on-premises and in Azure
- Azure Reservations and Azure Savings Plans
- Azure Hybrid Benefit and Flexible Virtualization Benefit

#### Ways to buy Microsoft products

- Volume Licensing agreements
- Buying Online Services through CSP and Volume Licensing agreements
- Buying Azure through CSP, Volume Licensing agreements, and MCA-E

## Getting started: licensing fundamentals

If you're new to Microsoft licensing, taking a single exam on all these areas of licensing can be an overwhelming place to start. So, we'd recommend working through our licensing fundamentals exams. This is a series of four modules that cover all the content required to pass the Foundation exam, but in bite sized chunks. Each module consists of a training webinar run by Louise Ulrick and a 10-question test to check your knowledge in that area. You can listen to the training as often as you want, and take the tests as often as you need to; the pass mark for all exams is 70%. The questions aren't the same as in the Foundation exam, so don't try and learn the answers!

Module name	Exam links	Training links
Licensing the desktop	<a href="#">Licensing the desktop</a>	<a href="#">Licensing the desktop</a>
Server licensing basics: on-premises VMs	<a href="#">Server licensing basics: on-premises VMs</a>	<a href="#">Server licensing basics: on-premises VMs</a>
Server licensing basics: Azure VMs	<a href="#">Server licensing basics: Azure VMs</a>	<a href="#">Server licensing basics: Azure VMs</a>
Ways to buy through Microsoft's licensing agreements	<a href="#">Ways to buy through Microsoft's licensing agreements</a>	<a href="#">Ways to buy through Microsoft's licensing agreements</a>

You might want to do a module a day if you're on a fast track, or a module a week if you want to take things at a more moderate pace. You can ask questions about the training by emailing [training@licensingsschool.co.uk](mailto:training@licensingsschool.co.uk), and ask questions about the exams by emailing [exams@licensingsschool.co.uk](mailto:exams@licensingsschool.co.uk).

## Using your triple-shot Foundation exam link

You will have been sent a link to take the Foundation exam – reach out to your Account Manager if you need it to be resent to you. The link is used with a code unique to you, and gives you three attempts to take the exam. We'd recommend that when you've completed the licensing fundamentals exams, you use one of your attempts to benchmark yourself against the requirements of the exam. When you have completed the exam, you get feedback on how you've done in the three different sections, as shown in the picture below, and it will give you an idea of any areas you need to work on:

Category	Percentage
Desktop	100%
Server	54.2%
Ways to buy	91.4%

Of course, if you pass the exam on that first attempt then that's great! As time goes on, you may want to refresh the core knowledge that you've gained, or learn more about licensing, and this is when you should use [LicenseVerse](#). The links on the next page show where you could do further reading on the core topics included in the Foundation exam, and it's also ideal when you've identified areas to work on having used your first exam attempt.

## LicenseVerse links

It is often said that the key to success is to be able to find the right information at the right time, and so we encourage you to use [LicenseVerse](#) as you take the exam. Links to the main pages for the topics included on the syllabus are listed below:

### Licensing the desktop products

- **Windows 11 and Office 2024**
  - <https://www.licensing-school.co.uk/licenseverse/windows-11-user/>
  - <https://www.licensing-school.co.uk/licenseverse/office-ltsc-2024/>
- **SharePoint Server SE and Exchange Server SE**
  - <https://www.licensing-school.co.uk/licenseverse/sharepoint-server-subscription-edition-se/licensing-sharepoint-server-se/>
  - <https://www.licensing-school.co.uk/licenseverse/exchange-server-subscription-edition-se/>
- **Microsoft 365 Business and Enterprise**
  - <https://www.licensing-school.co.uk/licenseverse/microsoft-365-plans-for-smb-users/>
  - <https://www.licensing-school.co.uk/licenseverse/microsoft-365-plans-for-enterprise-users/>
- **Windows 365 and Azure Virtual Desktop**
  - <https://www.licensing-school.co.uk/licenseverse/windows-365/>
  - <https://www.licensing-school.co.uk/licenseverse/azure-virtual-desktop/>
- **Dynamics 365 CRM and ERP apps**
  - <https://www.licensing-school.co.uk/licenseverse/dynamics-365-crm-apps/>
  - <https://www.licensing-school.co.uk/licenseverse/dynamics-365-erp-apps/>
- **Flexible Virtualization Benefit**
  - <https://www.licensing-school.co.uk/licenseverse/flexible-virtualization-benefit/>

### Licensing the server products

- **Windows Server virtual machines: on-premises and in Azure**
  - <https://www.licensing-school.co.uk/licenseverse/windows-server-2025/>
  - <https://www.licensing-school.co.uk/licenseverse/licensing-windows-server-virtual-machines/>
- **SQL Server virtual machines: on-premises and in Azure**
  - <https://www.licensing-school.co.uk/licenseverse/sql-server-2022/>
  - <https://www.licensing-school.co.uk/licenseverse/licensing-sql-server-virtual-machines/>
- **Azure Reservations and Azure Savings Plans**
  - <https://www.licensing-school.co.uk/licenseverse/azure-reservations/>
  - <https://www.licensing-school.co.uk/licenseverse/azure-savings-plans/>
- **Azure Hybrid Benefit and Flexible Virtualization Benefit**
  - <https://www.licensing-school.co.uk/licenseverse/azure-hybrid-benefit/windows-server/>
  - <https://www.licensing-school.co.uk/licenseverse/azure-hybrid-benefit/sql-server/>
  - <https://www.licensing-school.co.uk/licenseverse/flexible-virtualization-benefit/>

### Ways to buy Microsoft products

- **Volume Licensing agreements**
  - <https://www.licensing-school.co.uk/licenseverse/introduction-to-microsoft-licensing/>
- **Buying Online Services through CSP and Volume Licensing agreements**
  - <https://www.licensing-school.co.uk/licenseverse/buying-online-services-csp-nce/>
  - <https://www.licensing-school.co.uk/licenseverse/buying-online-services-ea/>
  - <https://www.licensing-school.co.uk/licenseverse/buying-online-services-open-programs/>
- **Buying Azure through CSP, Volume Licensing agreements, and MCA-E**
  - <https://www.licensing-school.co.uk/licenseverse/azure-consumption-services/>
  - <https://www.licensing-school.co.uk/licenseverse/buying-azure-services-csp/>
  - <https://www.licensing-school.co.uk/licenseverse/buying-azure-services-ea/>
  - <https://www.licensing-school.co.uk/licenseverse/buying-azure-services-open-programs/>
  - <https://www.licensing-school.co.uk/licenseverse/buying-azure-services-mca-e/>