

License Mobility for Windows Server and SQL Server subscriptions FAQ

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Summary

On April 1, 2026, Microsoft will update the product terms for Windows Server and SQL Server subscriptions purchased under the Microsoft Customer Agreement (MCA) to ensure that subscription licenses purchased through the Cloud Solution Provider (CSP) motion have the same benefits as those provided through Software Assurance in our legacy Volume Licensing offers. This results in adding License Mobility rights for eligible Windows Server (External Connector and RDS CALs only) and SQL Server subscription licenses. You can review the updated product terms [here](#).

Frequently Asked Questions

How is Microsoft granting these additional License Mobility rights?

Microsoft is granting these rights by adding this statement to the [Product Terms for Windows Server Standard, Datacenter, and Essentials](#) and the [Product Terms for SQL Server](#): “For Subscription licenses, during the term of its subscription, Customer is additionally granted rights equivalent to the rights provided to SA customers.”

Prior to April 1, 2026, specific SA benefits are conveyed for Windows Server and SQL Server subscription via a separate “Server Subscriptions in Azure” section of the Product Terms. The new text expands these use rights to include all applicable SA benefits. The net effect is that it adds License Mobility for Windows Server Remote Desktop Services (RDS) User Client Access License (CAL) subscriptions and SQL Server subscriptions and eliminates the need for this separate “Server Subscriptions in Azure” page.

Does this change require partners to take action?

No immediate action is required from partners. You should review the updated Product Terms and be prepared to support customers deploying eligible server workloads in Microsoft Azure or Authorized Mobility Partner environments.

Does this impact existing subscriptions?

Yes. The addition of License Mobility rights applies to Windows Server RDS User CAL and SQL Server subscription licenses effective April 1, 2026. Eligibility for License Mobility rights depends on the licensing terms applicable to the customer’s subscription purchase and agreement. Encourage customers to review the Microsoft Product Terms and their licensing agreement to understand how the rights apply.

How does this relate to the Flexible Virtualization Benefit?

Flexible Virtualization Benefit provides an alternative licensing approach that allows customers to deploy certain workloads in authorized cloud environments without License Mobility requirements.

Which licensing channels are impacted by this change?

This update applies to Server subscriptions purchased under the MCA.

Which Microsoft products are eligible for License Mobility?

Eligible server products include Windows Server (External Connectors and RDS User CALs only), Microsoft SQL Server, Microsoft Exchange Server, Microsoft SharePoint Server, Microsoft System Center servers, and Microsoft Dynamics 365 Operations Server.

Will Microsoft be increasing the price of software subscriptions to account for the value of these new benefits?

No. Customers should refer to their applicable licensing agreements and Product Terms for authoritative pricing information.

Does License Mobility apply to Windows Server operating system licenses?

No. Per the [Product Terms for Windows Server](#), License Mobility applies only to External Connector licenses and Windows Server RDS User CALs.

Where can eligible licenses be deployed?

Eligible licenses can be deployed in Microsoft Azure or in an Authorized Mobility Partner's datacenter.

Do customers need active Software Assurance to use License Mobility?

Customers need active Software Assurance or subscription licenses to use License Mobility.

Do customers need to purchase new Client Access Licenses (CALs)?

No. Customers do not need to purchase new Microsoft Client Access Licenses (CALs) when using License Mobility if the appropriate CALs are already covered by active Software Assurance or are licensed on a subscription basis.

What actions are required when deploying workloads using License Mobility?

Customers should assess license eligibility, choose a deployment method (Azure or Authorized Mobility Partner), and submit the License Verification Form to Microsoft.

When must the License Verification Form be submitted?

The License Verification Form must be submitted within 10 days of deployment.

Where can partners access the License Verification Form?

The License Verification Form can be found at <https://www.microsoft.com/licensing/docs>

What information is required on the License Verification Form?

The form requires licensing information such as organization name, agreement type, agreement number, enrollment number, Software Assurance expiration date, and Authorized Mobility Partner details.

Can multiple enrollments be included on the License Verification Form?

Yes. Multiple enrollments or license numbers may be included under a single agreement if supported by the same channel partner.

What happens after the License Verification Form is submitted?

Microsoft reviews the form and confirms eligibility. If eligible, Microsoft communicates the verification status to the customer and the Authorized Mobility Partner.

What happens if Microsoft cannot verify eligibility?

The form will be returned with details explaining why verification was not granted. The form may then be corrected and resubmitted.

Can organizations deploy solutions before verification is complete?

Yes. Customers can deploy while waiting for confirmation from Microsoft regarding License Mobility eligibility.

How do customers specify which licenses are being deployed?

In Exhibit A of the License Verification Form, customers select the product, edition, and number of licenses to deploy.

Where can customers find additional licensing information?

Customers and partners can review Microsoft Product Terms and Microsoft licensing documentation at <https://www.microsoft.com/licensing>