CompTIA Cloud Essentials
Exam Objectives (CLO-001)

INTRODUCTION

The CompTIA Cloud Essentials Exam is a vendor-neutral technical qualification. The Cloud Essentials exam is relevant to IT specialists, IT technical services specialists, IT relationship managers, IT architects, consultants, business and IT management, Business Process Owners, and analysts.

The CompTIA Cloud Essentials exam will show that the successful candidate has the knowledge and understanding of the main cloud computing principles and concepts. Successful candidates will understand what cloud computing means from a business and technical perspective, as well as what is involved in moving to and governing the cloud.

While it is not required, CompTIA recommends that a candidate have at least 6 months of experience in an IT environment, with direct involvement in IT-related tasks, responsibilities and/or decision-making.

This examination blueprint includes domain weighting, test objectives, and example content. Example topics and concepts are included to clarify the test objectives and should not be construed as a comprehensive listing of all the content of this examination.

The table below lists the domain areas measured by this examination and the approximate extent to which they are represented in the examination:

Domain	% of Examination
1.0 Characteristics of Cloud Services From a Business Perspective	15%
2.0 Cloud Computing and Business Value	20%
3.0 Technical Perspective/Cloud Types	20%
4.0 Steps to Successful Adoption of Cloud Computing	15%
5.0 Impact and Changes of Cloud Computing on IT Service Management	15%
6.0 Risks and Consequences of Cloud Computing	15%
Total	**100%**

**Note: The lists of examples provided in bulleted format below each objective are not exhaustive lists. Other examples of technologies, processes or tasks pertaining to each objective may also be included on the exam although not listed or covered in this objectives document.

Domain 1.0 Characteristics of Cloud Services from a Business Perspective

1.1 Understand common terms and definitions of cloud computing and provide examples.

1.2 Describe the relationship between cloud computing and virtualization.

1.3 Name early examples of cloud computing.

1.4 Understand several common definitions of cloud computing and their commonalities/differences.

1.5 Recognize what types organizations might benefit from cloud computing.

1.6 Recognize what types organizations might not benefit from cloud computing.

1.7 Distinguish between the different types of clouds, including XaaS, IaaS, PaaS, and give examples of them.

Domain 2.0 Cloud Computing and Business Value

2.1 Recognize the similarities and differences between cloud computing and outsourcing.

2.2 Understand the following characteristics of clouds and cloud services from a business perspective:
- Scalability
- Security
- Hardware independence
- Variable costs
- Time to market
- Distribution over the Internet

2.3 Demonstrate how the characteristics of cloud computing enhance business value.

Domain 3.0 Technical Perspectives/Cloud Types

3.1 Understand the difference between private and public types of clouds from a technical perspective and provide examples.

3.2 Understand at a high level the following important techniques and methods for cloud computing deployment:
- Networking
- Automation and Self Service
- Federation
- The role of standardization

3.3 Explain technical challenges and risks for cloud computing and methods to mitigate them for:
- Cloud storage
- Application performance
- Data integration
- Security

3.4 Describe the impact of cloud computing on application architecture and the application-development process.

Domain 4.0 Steps to Successful Adoption of Cloud

4.1 Explain typical steps that lead to a successful adoption of cloud computing services:
- Understand selection criteria for a pilot
- Relate SaaS, PaaS, IaaS deployment to organizational goals

4.2 Understand the roles and capabilities of cloud computing vendors and dependencies on the vendors.

4.3 Understand the following organizational capabilities that are relevant for realizing cloud benefits:
- Skills that are required in an organization adopting cloud computing
- Critical success factors

4.4 Describe multiple approaches for migrating applications

Domain 5.0 Impact and Changes of Cloud Computing on IT Service Management

5.1 Understand the impact and changes cloud computing on IT service management in a typical organization:
- Service Strategy
- Service Design
- Service Operation
- Service Transition

5.2 Use a structured approach based on ITIL to explore the potential impact of cloud computing in your organization.

Domain 6.0 Risks and Consequences of Cloud Computing

6.1 Explain and identify the issues associated with integrating cloud computing into an organization's existing compliance risk and regulatory framework:
- Security Legal, Compliance, Privacy risks

6.2 Explain the implications for direct cost and cost allocations.

6.3 Understand how to maintain strategic flexibility.