



CompTIA Cloud Essentials Certification Exam Objectives (CLO-001)

INTRODUCTION

The CompTIA Cloud Essentials Certification Exam is a vendor-neutral technical qualification. The Cloud Essentials exam is relevant to business analysts, business process owners, technical support staff, managed service provider personnel, new data center staff, and sales/marketing staff in cloud product or service environments.

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 six months of experience working in an environment that markets or relies on IT-related services.

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%

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****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. CompTIA used NIST publication 800-145 during development to standardize on the definition of certain Cloud terms.

CompTIA is constantly reviewing the content of our exams and updating test questions to be sure our exams are current and the security of the questions is protected. When necessary, we will publish updated exams based on existing exam objectives. Please know that all related exam preparation materials will still be valid.

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.

Cloud Essentials Acronyms

The following is a list of acronyms which appear on the CompTIA Cloud Essentials exam. Candidates are encouraged to review the complete list and attain a working knowledge of all listed acronyms as a part of a comprehensive exam preparation program.

ACRONYM	SPELLED OUT
API	Application Programming Interface
BPaaS	Business Process as a Service
CaaS	Communications as a Service
CAPEX	Capital Expense
CIO	Chief Information Officer
CRM	Content Records Management
DR	Disaster Recovery
IaaS	Infrastructure as a Service
ISO	International Standards Organization
ITIL	Information Technology Infrastructure Library
LDAP	Lightweight Directory Access Protocol

MaaS	Monitoring as a Service
OPEX	Operating Expense
PaaS	Platform as a Service
SaaS	Software as a Service
SDLC	Synchronous Data Link Control
SFTP	Secure File Transfer Protocol
SLA	Service Level Agreement
SNMP	Simple Network Management Protocol
SOA	Service Oriented Architecture
SSL	Secure Sockets Layer
TaaS	Testing as a Service
VLAN	Virtual LAN
VPN	Virtual Private Network
VTP	VLAN Trunk Protocol
WAN	Wide Area Network
XaaS	Anything as a Service