

Introduction to Software Assurance

Software Assurance (SA) is included in many Microsoft Volume Licensing agreements (Open Value, Open Value Subscription, Enterprise Agreement) and is an optional purchase in others (Open License, Select Plus, MPSA). SA is purchased at the same time as the corresponding license, and after SA payments have been maintained throughout an agreement, the SA may be renewed without the need to purchase a license again.

The benefits listed for Windows Server and SQL Server are also available to customers who have purchased Server Subscriptions through CSP, for the term of their subscriptions, with the exception of the License Mobility through SA benefit.

Software Assurance benefits by agreement

General	<p>New Version Rights – Rights to new software versions released during the term of the agreement. Available for all server, application and systems products</p>	Available in all Volume Licensing agreements
	<p>Spread Payments – Option to make annual payments rather than one up-front payment. Available for all server, application and systems products</p>	Available in all Volume Licensing agreements except Open License
	<p>Step Up Licenses Purchasing Rights – Rights to purchase a license to migrate from a Standard to an Enterprise edition of certain products. Available for relevant application and server products</p>	Available in all Volume Licensing agreements except Open License and MPSA
Desktop deployment	<p>Home Use Program – Rights for employees to purchase Visio 2019, Project 2019 or Office 365 Home/Personal to use at home. Available for qualifying desktop applications and customers with SAM coverage for the Applications pool</p>	Available in all Volume Licensing agreements
	<p>Microsoft Desktop Optimization Pack (MDOP) – Tools to take advantage of desktop virtualization and better manage Windows devices. Available for systems products</p>	
	<p>Windows To Go – Rights to run Windows 10 Enterprise E3/E5 on a bootable USB stick. Available for systems products</p>	
	<p>Windows 10 Enterprise Channels – Rights to deploy the Semi-Annual Channel or Long Term Servicing Channel releases. Available for systems products</p>	
	<p>Windows Thin PC – Enables repurposing of existing PCs as thin clients with a locked-down version of Windows 7 with a smaller footprint. Available for systems products</p>	
Server Deployment	<p>Windows Server Semi-Annual Channel Releases – Rights to install and use the Semi-Annual Channel releases of Windows Server</p>	Available in all Volume Licensing agreements
	<p>Disaster Recovery Rights – Temporary rights to run a backup instance of eligible server software on a server dedicated to disaster recovery. Available for server products</p>	
	<p>Fail-over Servers – Rights to run the server software on a passive server in anticipation of a fail-over event. Available for SQL Server 2019 and Dynamics 365 Operations Server</p>	
	<p>Power BI Report Server – Rights to run Power BI Report Server. Available only for SQL 2019 Enterprise Core licenses</p>	
	<p>Machine Learning Server – Rights to run Machine Learning Server for Windows^{1,2}, Linux^{1,2} or Hadoop¹. Available only for SQL 2019 Enterprise Core¹ or Server² licenses</p>	
	<p>Office Online Server – Rights to access Office Online Server for editing documents. Available for users of devices licensed with Office Standard, Office Professional Plus, or Office for Mac Standard</p>	
	<p>Exchange Online Voice Mail Service – Rights to use the Exchange Online Voice Mail Service to access voice messages from Outlook. Available for Exchange Server 2019 Standard/Enterprise Server licenses</p>	
	<p>System Center Current Branch – Rights to install and use the Current Branch option of System Center products</p>	
	<p>Rights to change CAL types – Rights to change the User/Device CAL type at SA renewal</p>	
<p>Self Hosting Use Rights – Allows ISVs who have built a unified solution around a Microsoft product to deploy that product and their solution for delivery over the Internet. Available for certain server applications specified in the Product Terms document</p>		
<p>Unified Service Desk – Rights to install Unified Service Desk on one device for a user/device licensed with a Dynamics 365 Sales or Customer Service CAL. Also available for users licensed with equivalent User SLs</p>		

Software Assurance benefits by agreement

Support and Training	<p>Training Vouchers – Technical training from Microsoft Learning Partners. Available for application and systems products. From February 1, 2021 customers cannot accrue further Training Vouchers but may redeem existing vouchers through December 2021</p>	<p>Available in all Volume Licensing agreements except Open License; Software Assurance Membership required for Select Plus and MPSA</p>
	<p>Planning Services – Partner services to build a plan to help deploy Microsoft technology. Available for application and server products. From February 1, 2021 customers cannot accrue further Planning Services days but may redeem existing vouchers through December 2021</p>	
	<p>24x7 Problem Resolution Support – Phone and Web business critical support. Available for all server, application and systems products</p>	<p>Available in all Volume Licensing agreements</p>
	<p>CustomerSource – Rights to a secure site that gives access to resources such as unlimited training courses and support via the knowledge base. Available for Dynamics customers with active SA or an Online Services User SL</p>	
Virtualization	<p>Virtualization Rights for Windows Desktops - Rights to run Windows 10 Enterprise E3/E5 in up to 4 VMs on a licensed device. Available for systems products</p>	<p>Available in all Volume Licensing agreements</p>
	<p>Windows Virtual Desktop Access (VDA) – Rights to access a virtual desktop running in a datacenter. Available for systems products</p>	
	<p>Office Roaming Rights – Rights to use Office, Project and Visio on third party devices in Windows To Go and VDI/RDS scenarios while away from the office. Available for Office 2019, Project 2019 and Visio 2019</p>	
	<p>License Mobility across Server Farms – Allows licenses to be reassigned between on-premises servers more frequently than every 90 days. Available for certain server applications specified in the Product Terms document</p>	
	<p>Unlimited Virtualization Rights – Rights to run unlimited virtual machines with SQL 2019/BizTalk 2020 if all the physical cores are licensed with Enterprise edition with SA. Available only for SQL 2019/BizTalk 2020 Enterprise Core licenses</p>	
Cloud	<p>License Mobility through SA – Enables deployment of licenses to a service provider’s shared or dedicated hardware, or to Azure. Available for certain server applications specified in the Product Terms document</p>	<p>Available in all Volume Licensing agreements</p>
	<p>Azure Hybrid Benefit: Windows Server – Rights to use Windows Server 2019 Standard or Datacenter licenses to license base virtual machines in Azure</p>	
	<p>Azure Hybrid Benefit: SQL Server – Rights to use SQL Server 2019 Standard or Enterprise Core licenses to license SQL virtual machines in Azure, or for the Azure SQL Database service, or for Azure Data Factory SQL Server Integration Services</p>	
	<p>Extended Use Rights for RDS User CALs – Allows RDS User CALs to be used with Windows Server software running in virtual machines on a service provider’s shared hardware or on Azure</p>	
	<p>Office for the web services – Rights to access Office for the web services for editing documents. Available for users of devices licensed with Office Standard, Office Professional Plus, or Office for Mac Standard</p>	
	<p>Hybrid Disaster Recovery Rights in Azure – Rights to run a passive secondary server for DR in Azure. Available for SQL Server 2019</p>	
	<p>Big Data Node Core License Rights – Entitlement for Big Data Node Core licenses for SQL Server 2019. Enterprise edition: 8 BDN Core licenses, Standard edition: 1 BDN Core license</p>	
	<p>From SA User SL purchasing rights – Rights to purchase From SA User SLs to migrate from an on-premises solution to a cloud solution. Available for many products detailed in the Product Terms document</p>	<p>Available in Open Value OW, OVS, and EA</p>