



EVALUATE YOUR CLOUD IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

How does your institution's cloud readiness compare to peer institutions?

The following self-assessment tool can help you gauge how your institution's cloud migration strategy stacks up to industry peers. Your answers can help inform actionable insights and lead to a more successful cloud migration.

1

Software Subscription Versus License

Do you have a firm understanding of the differences between software license and software subscription models and what the implications will be at your institution?

Y
N

Recommendation: An institution should consider two primary steps: First, take inventory of your current software costs; Second, work with your procurement and/or budget office to get an understanding of how your institution would pay for subscription fees for software as a service.

2

Resource Planning and Management

Have you planned and budgeted for your implementation resources appropriately, including backfill funding for key positions when overtime pay is not an option?

Y
N

Recommendation: Develop a resource plan that includes the internal staffing and external resources needed, as well as the backfill budget for critical internal resources.

3

Financial Planning

Have you established a contingency budget for potential cost overruns that includes a post-implementation support plan?

Y
N

Recommendation: Create a contingency budget of about 15 to 20 percent of your total project cost. Plan to release contingency funds incrementally as pre-defined project milestones are met.

4

Risk Assessment

Are you aware of your immediate and long-term implementation risks, including those risks associated with establishing a post-project support system oriented to frequent software updates?

Y
N

Recommendation: Develop an implementation risk forecast prior to project launch, creating mitigation strategies.

5

Change Management

Have you created a sound change management process that includes the right resources to guide your institution toward adopting more standard business processes?

Y
N

Recommendation: Develop and begin to execute an organizational change management plan well in advance of selecting software or launching an implementation project.

To discuss the results on this five-question assessment, as well as your institution's challenges and opportunities when considering a move to cloud applications, contact Ted Simpson at tsimpson@huronconsultinggroup.com.

To hear more from Ted Simpson on this issue, follow @Huron for up-to-date webinar, events, and speaking engagements, and **subscribe** to our monthly Future of Higher Education newsletter on timely higher education news.

