

Commercial Microsoft 365 to GCC

From Microsoft 365 Commercial to Government Community Cloud (GCC)

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Seven phases from your current Microsoft 365 tenant to Microsoft 365 GCC.

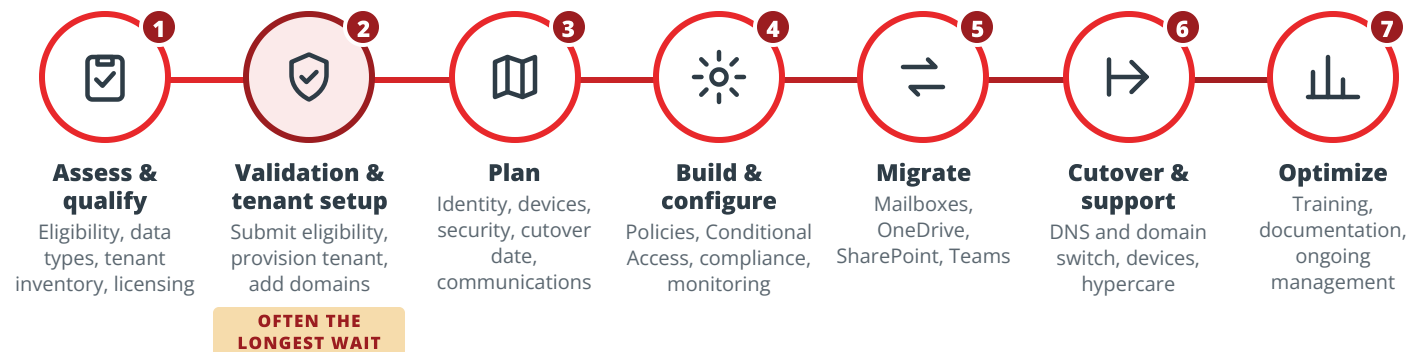
Moving from Microsoft 365 Commercial to GCC is a tenant-to-tenant migration: Microsoft validates your eligibility, provisions a new GCC tenant, and your content and domain move to it at cutover. Sierra Experts plans and runs each phase with you.

GCC runs on the same commercial Microsoft cloud infrastructure, with government data handling and screened U.S. personnel, so your users keep familiar Microsoft 365 apps.

BEFORE YOU START

- ♦ Complete the Sierra Experts GCC checklist
- ♦ Confirm your data is FCI, not CUI or ITAR/EAR
- ♦ Have contract or agency documentation ready for Microsoft's eligibility validation
- ♦ Name an internal owner and a decision-maker

THE ROADMAP



START: ASSESS

TYPICAL OVERALL RANGE

FINISH: OPTIMIZE

Small organizations: typically a few weeks overall

A typical range, not a promise. Microsoft's eligibility validation is often the longest wait. Actual timing depends on validation, data volume, device count, and your schedule.

WHAT TO EXPECT

A new tenant

GCC is a separate tenant from your Commercial one. Your domain moves over at cutover, not before.

A planned cutover

We pick the cutover date with you and tell users ahead of time what changes and what they need to do.

Support after the move

Hypercare right after cutover, then training, documentation, and ongoing management.

GCC HIGH IS DIFFERENT

Handling CUI, DFARS 252.204-7012, or ITAR/EAR data? Start with the GCC High checklist.

GCC High is a separate, sovereign cloud environment and a different, longer path, typically about 2 to 3 months, with a full migration and cutover to a separate tenant. This roadmap covers GCC only.

PHASE DETAIL

1 Assess & qualify

- ◆ Confirm your organization appears eligible for GCC
- ◆ Identify data types: FCI, CUI, ITAR/EAR. If CUI or export-controlled data is in play, switch to the GCC High path
- ◆ Inventory the current tenant: users, mailboxes, OneDrive, SharePoint, Teams, apps, devices
- ◆ Review current licensing and map it to GCC plans

2 Validation & tenant setup

- ◆ Submit eligibility validation to Microsoft; we help you prepare it
- ◆ Microsoft provisions the GCC tenant after validation
- ◆ Add domains to the new tenant; your primary domain moves at cutover
- ◆ Often the longest wait; planning can start in the meantime

3 Plan

- ◆ Identity plan in Microsoft Entra ID: accounts, MFA, admin roles
- ◆ Intune and device plan, including how devices re-enroll
- ◆ Security baseline for the new tenant
- ◆ Cutover date, plus a user communications plan

4 Build & configure

- ◆ Tenant policies, sharing settings, and licensing assignment
- ◆ Conditional Access and MFA enforcement
- ◆ Compliance settings to support your requirements
- ◆ Microsoft Sentinel and security monitoring, if in scope

5 Migrate

- ◆ Tenant-to-tenant migration from Commercial to GCC
- ◆ Mailboxes, OneDrive, SharePoint sites, and Teams content
- ◆ Bulk content moves ahead of cutover where possible
- ◆ We confirm up front what each workload can and can't carry over

6 Cutover & support

- ◆ DNS and domain switch to the GCC tenant
- ◆ Final content sync and user sign-in to the new tenant
- ◆ Device re-enrollment into Intune
- ◆ Hypercare: close, hands-on support right after cutover

7 Optimize

- ◆ User training on what changed
- ◆ Compliance documentation to support your compliance program
- ◆ Ongoing management, monitoring, and periodic reviews

YOUR PART IN THE MOVE

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Share contract or agency documentation for validation | ☐ Confirm the cutover date and any blackout dates |
| ☐ Approve the user communications plan | ☐ Line up pilot users to test before cutover |
| ☐ Provide DNS registrar access for the domain switch | ☐ Make devices available for re-enrollment |

Ready to map your move to GCC? Talk to Sierra Experts.

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