Cloud Computing Standard

Introduction
The OMES Information Security cloud computing strategy is based on a hybrid environment, which leverages the existing external cloud when possible and selectively utilizes the on-premises environment when beneficial. Using the on-premises environment, also referred to as a private cloud, allows the State of Oklahoma to leverage existing investments in infrastructure and provide a stable and secure environment.

OMES IS adheres to the National Institute of Standards of Technology guidelines for cloud computing strategy as a standard.

Purpose
This document outlines best practices for using cloud computing services to support the processing, sharing, storage and management of state information.

Definitions
Cloud computing – a model for enabling ubiquitous, convenient, on-demand network access to a shared pool of configurable computing resources (e.g., networks, servers, storage and services) that can be rapidly provisioned and released with minimal effort or service provider interaction.

Standard
The primary implementation preference for cloud computing for state agencies is Microsoft Azure Commercial. MAC cloud infrastructures comply with the highest industry standards of data security for remote hosted contents and is FedRAMP certified. In addition, MAC allows for OMES IS to select the data geography region that best fits the requirements of the data being utilized.

The State of Oklahoma recognizes there are laws and regulations for data types that require Microsoft Azure Government. Similar to MAC, MAG has the same comprehensive security controls in place. Whereas both cloud environments are assessed and authorized at the FedRAMP High impact level, MAG provides an additional layer of protection through contractual commitments for storing customer data in the United States. In addition, support personnel are screened resources that reside in the United States. Should support be needed after hours, the screened support personnel may reside outside of the United States. Please note that MAG cloud infrastructure is required when CJI and FTI data is stored or accessed, as well as when a data geography region cannot be configured by OMES IS, but regulatory compliance requires such ability.

Compliance
This standard shall take effect upon publication and is made pursuant to Title 62 O.S. §§ 34.11.1 and 34.12 and Title 62 O.S. § 35.8. OMES IS may amend and publish the amended standards policies and standards at any time. Compliance is expected with all published policies and standards, and any published amendments thereof. Employees found in violation of this standard may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination.
Rationale
To coordinate and require central approval of state agency information technology purchases and projects to enable the chief information officer to assess the needs and capabilities of state agencies as well as streamline and consolidate systems to ensure that the state delivers essential public services to its citizens in the most efficient manner at the lowest possible cost to taxpayers.

References
- Microsoft Products Available by Region.
- Azure Geographies.
- FTI 1075.

Revision history
This standard is subject to periodic review to ensure relevancy.

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