**What is the Cloud?**

Cloud Computing services are computing resources that provide on-demand access to a shared pool of computing resources that can be rapidly and easily configured, provisioned, and released. Cloud computing moves away from the traditional model of buying physical IT assets such as servers, storage, and routers and into buying the functionality provided by those devices as a Service. These solutions are delivered through the Internet on a pay-per-use or subscription basis in three service models.

**Key Takeaways**

- Users pay for what they consume, and can increase or decrease their usage
- The cloud customer can spend less time managing complex IT resources and more time investing in core mission work
- The providers benefit from economies of scale, enabling lower individual usage costs and centralize infrastructure costs

**Cloud Service Models (Based on NIST 800-145)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Model</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS)</td>
<td>Enables agencies to provision processing, storage, hardware, networks, and other fundamental computing resources on a third-party infrastructure they do not own, maintain, or manage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Platform as a Service (PaaS)</td>
<td>Allows agencies to deploy consumer-created or acquired software applications created using programming languages and tools, and to manage hosting environment configurations on a third-party infrastructure they do not own, maintain or manage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Software as a Service (SaaS)</td>
<td>Enables agencies to use a provider’s software applications running on a third-party infrastructure, accessible through a thin client interface such as a web browser.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Cloud Computing Acquisition Vehicles and Services

There are multiple ways to get to the cloud solution that you need through GSA’s acquisition vehicles. The Cloud Computing Services PMO will work with you to provide information and expertise to get you to the right cloud acquisition solution.

Through ongoing customer and industry engagement, the Cloud Computing Services PMO provides a trusted government source for emerging cloud technology acquisition.

For example, we offer the Email as a Service (EaaS) and Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) Blanket Purchase Agreements (BPAs) awarded to cloud computing services vendors. These multiple award BPAs make it easy for agencies to acquire cloud computing service by providing:

- More price competition and lower costs through use of ceiling pricing for explicitly defined standard services
- Shorter procurement lead time
- Socioeconomic credit through FPDS-NG reporting
- Customer focused staff with experience in cloud email acquisitions
- Free scope reviews of your prospective solicitation documents
- Consistent Terms & Conditions and SLAs for all vendors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IaaS BPA Services</th>
<th>EaaS BPA Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cloud Storage Services</td>
<td>Email as a Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cloud Virtual Machines</td>
<td>Office Automation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cloud Web Hosting</td>
<td>Electronic Records Management</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EaaS BPA:
The EaaS BPA offers Email as a Service as well as associated cloud and professional services. There are four delivery model options (Government Community Cloud, Private Cloud, Secret Enclave Cloud, and Public Cloud) providing customers with the flexibility to choose, based on the agency’s IT requirements. [http://www.gsa.gov/eaas](http://www.gsa.gov/eaas)

IaaS BPA:
The IaaS BPA offers services in three lots including Cloud Storage, Virtual Machines and Web hosting. Agencies have the flexibility to select the services that meet their requirements. [http://www.gsa.gov/iaas](http://www.gsa.gov/iaas)

IT Schedule 70 (Cloud SIN 132-40):
GSA provides commercial cloud computing services through IT Schedule 70, a $15 Billion program that is the primary vehicle through which federal customers can access the latest IT services and solutions. A new Special Item Number (SIN) has recently been added to IT Schedule 70 improve the way cloud services are delivered on IT Schedule 70. This provides an 'Easy to Find, Easy to Buy' central location to research and compare prequalified cloud services. [http://www.gsa.gov/schedule70](http://www.gsa.gov/schedule70)

Alliant GWACs:
Government-wide Acquisition Contracts (GWACs) offer cloud services as part of a total IT solution. Alliant GWAC solutions have been successfully used for many Cloud Computing projects including GSA’s own agency-wide implementation of Cloud Email as a Service. [http://www.gsa.gov/alliant](http://www.gsa.gov/alliant)

Contact the Cloud Computing Services PMO to learn more: CloudPMO@gsa.gov