

A Gartner G-Cloud 15 Service Definition for Cloud Consulting: Cloud Financial Management (CFM) — Governance and Architecture

2026

Gartner G-Cloud 15 Service Definition

© 2026 Gartner, Inc. and/or its affiliates. All rights reserved. Gartner is a registered trademark of Gartner, Inc. or its affiliates. This Gartner G-Cloud 15 Service Definition, including all supporting materials, is proprietary to Gartner, Inc. and/or its affiliates and is for the sole internal use of the intended recipients. Because this Gartner G-Cloud 15 Service Definition may contain information that is confidential, proprietary or otherwise legally protected, it may not be further copied, distributed or publicly displayed without the express written permission of Gartner, Inc. or its affiliates.

Gartner

Service Summary

Gartner will review the cloud configuration and consumption, architecture, cloud contract and governance, to identify cloud cost savings opportunities thereby optimising the cost of cloud services and establishing cloud financial management.

Delivered outcomes will support an enhanced cloud cost architecture, governance model and optimised cloud service utilisation.

Service Description

Gartner will independently and objectively assess the maturity of the client's cloud cost management capabilities using a published Cloud Financial Management (CFM) Framework.

Deliverables will support a reduction in cloud cost variance and increased transparency of cloud billing. To support this, Gartner will undertake a review of workload architecture to understand cloud optimisation opportunities.

Gartner will also assess cloud governance opportunities regarding standards, best practices, and financial hygiene. As part of this, a review of relevant cloud contracts will be undertaken to identify savings opportunities by leveraging benchmark data and expertise.

Gartner will work collaboratively to develop alternative approaches to cloud consumption and will assist in appropriately sizing cloud contracts. In doing so, Gartner will calculate revised pricing options using benchmark data and offer alternate cloud consumption patterns and recommendations.

Gartner will document a cloud governance approach that will assist in the prediction of cloud usage and consumption growth and enable the seamless integration of new workloads. Gartner's approach extends traditional FinOps foundations to encompass a more holistic approach that builds on basic cost hygiene.

Service Benefits

- Delivery of multi-cloud services and tools guidance
- Identification of cost-aware architecture best practices
- Architecture and governance optimisation
- Provision of client side, independent and objective advice
- Accelerates delivery of actionable insights through proven analytical capabilities
- AI-powered analysis that augments Gartner's Insights and SME delivery experience

Service Features

- Review technical architecture, application architecture and IT infrastructure
- Analyse configurations, service consumptions, transaction flow and performance requirements
- Evaluate geographical, business continuity and disaster recovery expectations

Full List of Service Features

- Conduct full cloud financial management assessment using a published framework and assess maturity across all dimensions of the model

- Review cloud (multi/hybrid) objectives and business imperatives
- Review on-premises or cloud-based architecture and infrastructure to identify components and integrations
- Analyse performance expectations and bottlenecks, review application architecture and cloud resource service consumption
- Review cloud tools and services usage for deployment, provisioning, monitoring, security, etc.
- Identify Identity and Access Management (IAM) and access control strategies/tools

Project Approach

For each scenario above, the different depths of a standard approach are proposed:

Phase 0 — Kick-off & mobilise engagement

- Confirm objectives and schedule
- Conduct project kick-off with key stakeholders to identify current business and technology strategic drivers, cloud strategy and governance
- Collect current state cloud usage data (storage, servers, database, security and DR)

Phase 1 — Review the current state of cloud financial maturity, cloud setup, architecture & CSP contract

- Perform cloud financial maturity assessment
- Review current cloud setup, including service consumption, performance, transactions, traffic flow
- Review cloud architecture, environments, tools, and technologies
- Review Cloud Service Provider (CSP) model, pricing, and discount structure based on spend

Phase 2 — Review cloud usage, billing reports, and identify leakages

- Create a detailed technical, operational, and business profile of the cloud workload
- Assess workload profile leveraging our cost-aware engineering approach
- Assess service consumption, efficiency, performance, and cost-effectiveness of the workload, including billing reports
- Analyse cloud workloads for cost leakages and optimisation opportunities

Phase 3 — Provide cloud financial management recommendations

- Document action plans for cloud usage cost optimisation addressing the cloud services and configuration
- Provide cloud architecture guidance recommendations
- Provide high-level peer cloud pricing and discount recommendations
- Establish optimisation programme governance tasks and initiatives
- Establish execution roadmap and action plan
- Conduct executive briefing

Project Schedule

Gartner anticipates completion of this engagement within 8-10 weeks, depending upon the client's selected engagement scenario.