

Atlassian Data Center End of Life: Migration Checklist

The three dated gates, four decisions for this quarter, and a 30-day checklist

Atlassian Data Center has three dated gates, and the first has already passed. If you run Jira, Confluence, or Jira Service Management on Server or Data Center, use this sheet to set the plan, make the four decisions that matter, and complete a 30-day checklist.

The timeline

Date	What changes	Practical effect
March 30, 2026	New Data Center licenses are no longer sold	You cannot add a new DC product; existing renewals continue
March 30, 2028	No new purchases or expansions of DC products or DC Marketplace apps	User-tier growth stops; renewals only
March 28, 2029	DC product and Marketplace app licenses become read-only	Users can view but not create or edit; effectively the end of service

Source: Atlassian, "Reminder: upcoming changes to Data Center products," March 2026. Bitbucket Data Center is excluded and continues under the Hybrid License.

March 2028 is the real deadline

Most organizations plan against the read-only date. The expansion freeze in March 2028 bites earlier: if a program grows, a division is acquired, or an app needs more seats, you will have no way to buy them. Back-plan so the last production wave finishes before March 2028.

Four decisions to make this quarter

- 1. Which cloud.** Atlassian Cloud Enterprise covers most financial services and healthcare tenants (Guard Premium, data residency, 99.95% SLA). Atlassian Government Cloud (FedRAMP Moderate, now labeled Certification Class C) is for agencies, contractors, and state programs handling federal data. Isolated Cloud is for organizations that require single-tenant isolation by policy.
- 2. What happens to each app.** Every Marketplace app is a keep, replace, or retire decision. Cloud equivalents differ in data-migration support, and some vendors have no path at all. Decide app strategy in planning, not at cutover.
- 3. How identity and compliance move.** SAML SSO, SCIM provisioning, MFA enforcement, and external-user policies live in Atlassian Guard. Map SOC 2, ISO 27001, PCI DSS, HIPAA, and GDPR requirements to Cloud controls before the first test migration.
- 4. Who owns the cutover.** A migration is a change program. Name a single accountable lead, a wave plan, and a hypercare period for each wave.

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The 30-day checklist

- ☐ Inventory every instance, version, user count, app, and integration; run Atlassian's readiness assessment.
- ☐ Archive or delete projects and spaces with no activity in 12 months; reduce what you migrate.
- ☐ Consolidate workflow schemes, screens, and custom fields; Cloud migrations surface every duplicate.
- ☐ Classify data and pick a data-residency region.
- ☐ Draft the app keep / replace / retire list and request vendor migration guides.
- ☐ Stand up a sandbox Cloud tenant and run the first test migration of a low-risk project.
- ☐ Write the wave plan with dates that end before March 2028.

What a migration actually costs

Three costs matter: the Cloud subscription delta (usually offset by retiring DC infrastructure and admin overhead), Marketplace app replacements, and the migration program itself. Small instances run six to ten weeks. Large, app-heavy, multi-instance environments run four to nine months in waves. The most expensive migration is the one that starts in late 2027.

VTPMO's 8-step migration roadmap

Assess → Plan → Prep → Validate → Migrate → Test → Launch → Support. Security, compliance, and app strategy are decided up front; each wave gets a hypercare period; Atlassian Certified Professionals run the work end to end.

Talk to a practitioner

VTPMO runs Data Center to Cloud migrations for regulated enterprises and government programs, including Atlassian Government Cloud. Clients include the Federal Reserve Banks, Visa, Wells Fargo, Optum, and state Medicaid agencies.

Book a 30-minute discovery call: outlook.office.com/book/vtpmo@vtpmo.com · info@vtpmo.com