

Vanta

HITRUST[®]

The HITRUST Certification

 Checklist



The HITRUST Certification Checklist

HITRUST is the global leader in cybersecurity assurance that offers a comprehensive, effective, and efficient approach to regulatory compliance and cybersecurity risk management. Earning a HITRUST certification demonstrates your organization's commitment to safeguarding sensitive information and empowers you to earn the trust of your customers, partners, and other stakeholders.

Vanta, the leading trust management platform, has partnered with HITRUST to be the first automated compliance partner for all three levels of HITRUST Validated Assessments—e1, i1, and r2—and reseller of their audit platform, HITRUST MyCSF. Vanta is the first pre-built solution that includes the controls, documents, and policies necessary to demonstrate your commitment to safeguarding data and protected health information—all in a way that can be validated by HITRUST.

Together we've created this checklist to help guide your organization on the requirements for HITRUST certification and set your organization up for success. This checklist lays the foundation for what you should expect and informs you on which parties are involved, throughout the validation process.

STEP 1

Pre-work for your HITRUST certification

- Align your goals:** Ensure that pursuing a HITRUST certification aligns with your business goals and programs
- Find internal stakeholders:** Identify key stakeholders within your organization, such as champions who can drive internal buy-in, and a project owner to drive the certification process
- Educate leadership:** Educate your team, executives, and the board on the HITRUST process, implied changes, and the added value to your organization of attaining certification

STEP 2

Work for your HITRUST certification

- Understand the HITRUST CSF:** Familiarize yourself with the control requirements of the [HITRUST CSF](#)
- Identify compliance needs:** Determine your organization's specific compliance requirements
- Select appropriate HITRUST assessment type:** Choose between [e1](#), [i1](#), or [r2](#) assessment, according to needs of your business and your risk profile
- Use Vanta to streamline the assessment:** Use Vanta to identify and remediate gaps in your compliance program

STEP 2 CONTINUED

- Find an external assessor:** Work with Vanta to select a HITRUST Validated Assessor—A-LIGN, Prescient Assurance, or Insight Assurance—to guide you through and to conduct your Readiness assessment
- Purchase MyCSF subscription:** Work with Vanta to initiate the procurement process for your Validated Assessor, MyCSF subscription, and report credit (if required)
- Attend the HITRUST course:** Gain insights and guidance through HITRUST's [New Customer Orientation](#)

Readiness assessment

- Define [assessment Scope](#):** Identify the areas and systems to be included in the assessment and communicate the intended timeline of certification to your chosen Validated Assessor
- Perform initial assessment:** Work with your external assessor to identify gaps using Vanta
- Initiate inheritance plans:** Create plans for internal or external [inheritance of controls](#)
- Make inheritance requests:** Submit inheritance requests via the MyCSF platform
- Secure QA date:** Schedule a date for post-submission [HITRUST QA review](#)

Remediation

- Resolve gaps:** Use Vanta to identify and remediate any evidence gaps identified during the readiness assessment

STEP 3

The Validated Assessment

Validated Assessment

- Provide evidence:** Collect and submit necessary evidence to your external assessor
- Finalize inheritance:** Confirm all inheritance plans
- Support External Assessor:** Be available for any additional validation requests
- Address issues:** Resolve any issues noted during the pre-submission QA

Submission and Review

- Submit assessment:** Submit the relevant evidence to your chosen Validated Assessor to input into MyCSF for HITRUST to review
- Support QA process:** Be available to assist your external assessor with any [QA queries](#)

Certification

- Review certification report:** Check and approve the [draft certification report](#)

STEP 4

Ensuring compliance over time and beyond

Ongoing Monitoring

- Remediate gaps:** Use Vanta to continue to monitor your state of compliance and continue to close gaps

Plan for the next assessment

- Future planning:** Prepare for your next HITRUST assessment to maintain compliance, manage risks, and enhance security — leveraging inheritance where appropriate
- Advancing your assessment:** Consider expanding your security posture by exploring the different levels within the HITRUST ecosystem — from e1 to i1 and i1 to r2

Leverage the business benefits of HITRUST certification, including

- Commercial compliance:** Satisfy customer, contractual requirements or preferences for HITRUST certification
- Market access:** Gain access to new or additional markets that require or prefer HITRUST certification
- Market differentiator:** Demonstrate the highest level of security posture as a vendor or partner
- Risk mitigation:** Adopt proven, repeatable, and measurable methods ensure significant risk reduction in certified environments (only 0.64% of experienced breaches over two years)
- Value creation:** Improve potential valuation with investors and shareholders
- Liability reduction:** Protect yourself and your organization by using a prescriptive, complete, and proven framework to plan, build, execute, and validate your cybersecurity program instead of building your own
- Regulatory compliance:** Reuse and restate HITRUST validated controls using HIPAA, SOC 2, ISO 27001, GDPR, and others to reduce compliance efforts



Vanta

Automate compliance. Simplify security. Demonstrate trust.

Vanta is the leading trust management platform that helps simplify and centralize security for organizations of all sizes. Thousands of companies rely on Vanta to build, maintain and demonstrate their trust—all in a way that's real-time and transparent. Founded in 2018, Vanta has customers in 58 countries with offices in Dublin, New York, San Francisco and Sydney.

For more information, visit:

www.vanta.com | sales@vanta.com

HITRUST

HITRUST, the leader in enterprise risk management, information security, and compliance assurances, offers a certification system for the application and validation of security, privacy, and AI controls, informed by over 50 standards and frameworks. The company's threat-adaptive approach delivers the most relevant and reliable solution, including multiple selectable and traversable control sets, over 100 independent assessment firms, centralized quality reviews and certification, and a powerful SaaS platform enabling its program and ecosystem. For over 17 years, HITRUST has led the assurance industry and today is widely recognized as the most trusted solution to establish, maintain, and demonstrate security capabilities for risks management and compliance.

For media inquiries, please contact:

leslie@kesscomm.com | 503-358-1012