

HITRUST is the global leader in cybersecurity assurances 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 stakeholders.

You can choose from [three HITRUST assessment options](#) — e1, i1, and r2 — suited for organizations of different sizes, risk profiles, and business goals. These assessments are based on [the HITRUST framework](#), which harmonizes more than 50 authoritative sources and leverages threat intelligence to address emerging threats. HITRUST enables you to move from one assessment to the other without losing your work and to reuse and [inherit controls](#) from your third-party vendors.

HITRUST certifications are widely accepted, trusted, and reliable, with [less than 1%](#) of organizations with HITRUST certifications reporting breaches in 2022 and 2023. Achieving HITRUST certification can enhance your organization's credibility and provide a competitive edge.

Ready to start your HITRUST certification journey? Here's a step-by-step checklist to guide you.

### Step One - Internal Education

- **Align Your Goals:** Ensure that pursuing a HITRUST certification aligns with your business goals and programs.
- **Find Internal Champions:** Identify key stakeholders within your organization who can drive the certification process.
- **Educate Leadership:** Educate your team, executives, and the board on the HITRUST process and implied changes.

### Step Two - Preparation

- **Understand the HITRUST CSF Framework:** Familiarize yourself with the control requirements of the HITRUST CSF.
- **Get MyCSF subscription:** Choose and buy the appropriate MyCSF subscription.
- **Attend the HITRUST Course:** Gain insights and guidance through HITRUST's [New Customer Orientation](#).
- **Identify Compliance Needs:** Determine your organization's specific compliance requirements.
- **Select Appropriate HITRUST Assessment Type:** Choose between e1, i1, or r2 assessment.
- **Find an External Assessor:** Select a [qualified external assessor](#) to guide you through the assessment.

### Step Three - [Readiness Assessment](#)

- **Define [Assessment Scope](#):** Identify the areas and systems to be included in the assessment.

- **Perform Initial Assessment:** Work with your external assessor to identify gaps using HITRUST CSF tools.
- **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](#).

### Step Four - Remediation

- **Resolve Gaps:** Prioritize and rectify any gaps identified during the readiness assessment.

### Step Five - [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.

### Step Six - Submission and Review

- **Submit Assessment:** Send the validated assessment to HITRUST for official review.
- **Support QA Process:** Be available to assist your external assessor with any [QA queries](#).

### Step Seven - Certification

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

### Step Eight - Ongoing Monitoring

- **Remediate Gaps:** Continue to close gaps.
- **Maintain Compliance:** Constantly monitor and comply with relevant security controls.

### Step Nine - Plan for the Next Assessment

- **Future Planning:** Prepare for your next HITRUST assessment to maintain compliance, manage risks, and enhance security.

HITRUST is dedicated to expanding your organization's value. It ensures you meet the highest standards in security and compliance. It helps you meet customer contract demands, access new markets, and drive business success. It offers peace of mind with proven risk mitigation strategies coupled with cyber insurance underwriting benefits. Additionally, HITRUST's innovative [AI Assurance](#) and Insights Reports enable you to leverage technology and address multiple requirements for efficiency and growth.

Follow the checklist to navigate the path to achieving and maintaining HITRUST certification with confidence.