

As cloud infrastructure modernization continues to evolve rapidly in 2026, organizations face crucial decisions when selecting a partner to lead their digital transformation. Moving from legacy on-premises environments to cloud platforms like AWS and Microsoft Azure involves more than a simple lift-and-shift—it's <https://www.fingerlakes1.com/2025/05/14/5-best-cloud-infrastructure-modernization-companies-editors-pick/> about aligning technology with business goals while maintaining security and compliance.

Top-tier modernization vendors such as Future Processing, Cognizant, and Logicworks often come recommended, but before you commit, it's essential to vet your options thoroughly. This post provides a focused checklist of questions to ask during vendor evaluations that will ensure clarity on **scope of work**, **security practices**, and **success metrics**. These criteria will help shape your shortlisting of cloud modernization companies in 2026 and beyond.

Why Asking the Right Questions Matters in 2026

The cloud landscape is more complex than ever. AWS, Microsoft Azure, and Google Cloud continue to expand their service offerings, with increasing support for hybrid and multi-cloud scenarios. Enterprises are no longer choosing a platform based solely on price or popularity; instead, they evaluate vendors on capability, compliance, and measured outcomes.

Misaligned expectations with a cloud modernization partner can cause delays, cost overruns, and regulatory risks. By defining your priorities and asking the right questions upfront, you'll avoid common pitfalls and find a partner whose expertise and approach fit your company's unique requirements.

Key Vendor Shortlisting Criteria

When you narrow down your vendor list to companies like Future Processing, Cognizant, or Logicworks, make sure to evaluate them based on:



- **Experience with your target cloud platforms** - Do they specialize in AWS, Azure, or multi-cloud? Can they demonstrate migrations and modernization projects similar to yours?

- **Defined scope of work** - How clearly do they articulate the phases, deliverables, and responsibilities involved?
- **Security and compliance expertise** - Can they meet industry-specific regulations (e.g., FINRA, HIPAA, GDPR)? What security frameworks do they follow?
- **Success metrics and reporting** - How do they measure outcomes? What KPIs can they provide to prove value?
- **Transparency around pricing** - Is the pricing detailed and understandable? Are base quotes inclusive or are there extra charges?

Essential Questions to Ask Before Signing

Below is a categorized list of questions you should ask a cloud modernization company to ensure all bases are covered. Tailor these questions to your industry and business goals.



1. Questions on Scope of Work

1. **Can you provide a detailed description of the *scope of work*?** Ask for a clear breakdown of phases such as discovery, assessment, migration, optimization, and ongoing support. Understand what deliverables are included at each stage.
2. **What services are included in the base quote vs. additional fees?** Vendors like Cognizant and Logicworks often have standard packages but may charge extra for unexpected complexities or tools.
3. **How do you handle legacy applications that require refactoring vs. rehosting?** This affects timelines and costs significantly. Check if the scope accounts for code modernization or containerization.
4. **What is your approach to multi-cloud or hybrid deployments?** Future Processing, for example, has expertise in multi-cloud strategies using AWS and Azure — verify if this aligns with your environment.

2. Questions on Security Practices

1. **What security frameworks and certifications does your team hold?** Look for references to standards like ISO 27001, SOC 2, NIST, or industry-specific compliance requirements.

2. **How do you ensure data protection during migration?** Encryption methods, secure transfer protocols, and access controls should be clearly described.
3. **Do you conduct security and compliance assessments pre- and post-migration?** Regular audits and penetration testing should be part of their offerings.
4. **How do you handle identity and access management in cloud environments?** Ensure compatibility with your existing IAM policies, with options for least privilege access and multi-factor authentication.

3. Questions on Success Metrics

1. **What KPIs do you use to measure migration success?** Examples include uptime targets, performance benchmarks, cost savings, and user adoption rates.
2. **Do you provide reporting dashboards during and after modernization?** Visibility into progress and performance post-migration is critical for staying informed.
3. **How do you handle post-migration support and optimization?** Modernization is ongoing. Ask about SLAs, incident response times, and continuous improvement processes.
4. **Can you share case studies or references demonstrating measurable outcomes?** Real-world examples provide confidence about their ability to deliver results.

Comparing Leading Cloud Modernization Companies

Here is a high-level comparison of three reputable vendors and their positioning in cloud modernization:

Vendor	Cloud Platform Expertise	Security & Compliance Focus	Scope of Work Clarity	Multi-Cloud Capability	Success Metrics & Reporting	Future Processing
Cognizant	- Strong AWS & Azure - Custom multi-cloud solutions - ISO 27001 certified - GDPR & industry compliance	Detailed, tailored to client needs	Yes, with hybrid cloud options	Comprehensive KPIs and client dashboards		
Logicworks	- AWS, Azure, Google Cloud - Enterprise migrations - NIST, HIPAA, FINRA expertise - Automated compliance tools	Well-defined but can vary by engagement	Supports multi-cloud at scale	Focus on cost reduction and agility		

Additional Tips When Engaging Cloud Modernization Vendors

- **Always request what is included in the base quote.** Avoid vendors who give vague “starting at” prices without context.
- **Keep a running list of migration gotchas.** For example, application dependencies not initially discovered or compliance gaps.
- **Demand examples, not buzzwords.** Terms like “best-in-class” or “innovative” should be backed by data.
- **Ensure vendor teams understand your industry’s regulatory environment.** This can differentiate one modernization partner from another.

Conclusion

Choosing the right cloud modernization company in 2026 is a strategic investment. Don’t settle for generic vendor pitches or fuzzy pricing models. By focusing on well-defined **scope of work**, transparent **security practices**, and measurable **success metrics**, your organization can confidently shortlist and select a partner that aligns with your technical needs and business goals.

Future Processing, Cognizant, and Logicworks represent strong choices with varied cloud and security expertise — but your due diligence through targeted questions will reveal which one truly fits your unique modernization path.

Start your evaluation with these questions in hand, and avoid surprises down the road. Cloud modernization in 2026 demands clarity, trust, and measurable results.