

# Onboarding Checklist

Use this checklist to share essentials so we can secure, stabilize, and go live without disruption—without surprises.

## Client Information

Company Name: _____	Date: _____
Primary Contact: _____	NLS Contact: _____

## Section A: Company & Contacts

Key stakeholders and communication preferences for onboarding and ongoing support.

- Primary decision maker *(name, role, email, mobile)*
- Billing/agreements contact *(if different from primary)*
- Day-to-day IT contact *(who handles IT requests internally)*
- Preferred communication channel *(email, Teams, Slack, phone)*
- Decision cadence and escalation path *(who approves changes)*
- Office manager / facilities contact *(for on-site coordination)*
- Emergency contact *(after-hours critical issues)*

## Section B: Vendors & Licensing

Current service providers and software licensing details we need to coordinate or take over.

### Internet & Connectivity

- Internet/ISP provider and account info *(provider name, account #, public IP)*
- Circuit type and bandwidth *(fiber, cable, fixed wireless, Mbps)*
- Secondary/failover connection *(if applicable)*
- ISP support contact *(phone, portal login)*

### Phone & Communications

- Phone / UCaaS provider *(current vendor, contract status)*
- Phone numbers to port *(list all DIDs, toll-free, fax)*
- Auto-attendant / call flow documentation *(if available)*
- Current monthly cost *(for comparison purposes)*

### Cloud & Productivity

- Microsoft 365 subscription *(plan type, user count, admin access)*
- Google Workspace subscription *(plan type, user count, admin access)*
- Other cloud services *(Dropbox, Box, Salesforce, etc.)*
- Current licensing costs *(monthly/annual)*

### Security Tools

- Antivirus / EDR / XDR platform *(current vendor, coverage)*

- Email security / spam filtering *(vendor, configuration)*
- DNS filtering / web security *(vendor, policy)*
- SIEM / log management *(if applicable)*

### Domain & Certificates

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- Domain registrar & DNS host *(GoDaddy, Cloudflare, etc.)*
- DNS records visibility *(do you have access?)*
- TLS/SSL certificates *(issuer, expiration dates)*
- Website hosting provider *(if NLS will manage)*

### Line-of-Business Applications

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- Critical LOB apps *(EHR, ERP, accounting, legal, etc.)*
- Vendor support contacts *(for each critical app)*
- Hosting model *(on-prem, cloud, hybrid)*

## Section C: Access & Security

Current security posture and access credentials we need to manage your environment.

### Administrative Access

- Global admin credentials (*M365, Google, or on-prem domain*)
- Firewall / router admin access (*IP, credentials, VPN*)
- Switch / AP management access (*controller, cloud portal*)
- Server admin credentials (*local admin, domain admin*)
- Hypervisor access (*VMware, Hyper-V, Proxmox*)

### Identity & Authentication

- SSO/IdP in use (*Microsoft Entra ID, Okta, Google, other*)
- MFA enforcement policy (*which accounts, exceptions*)
- Conditional access policies (*if configured*)
- Password policy (*complexity, rotation, manager*)
- Shared/service accounts (*list any shared credentials*)

### Remote Access

- VPN solution (*vendor, configuration, user count*)
- Remote desktop / RMM (*existing tools if any*)
- Third-party remote access (*vendor tools, TeamViewer, etc.*)

## Section D: Network & Infrastructure

Physical and logical network architecture for documentation and optimization.

### Network Documentation

- High-level network diagram (*if available*)
- IP addressing scheme (*subnets, DHCP ranges, static IPs*)
- VLAN configuration (*segmentation, naming*)

### Network Hardware

- Firewall model & firmware (*make, model, version*)
- Switch models & topology (*managed/unmanaged, PoE*)
- Wireless APs & controller (*make, model, management*)
- UPS / power protection (*locations, capacity*)

### Servers & Compute

- On-premises servers (*physical, make, model, specs*)
- Virtual machines (*host, guest OS, purpose*)
- Cloud resources (*Azure, AWS, GCP VMs/services*)
- Server room / rack location (*for on-site visits*)

### Printers & Periphertic

- Network printers / MFPs (*make, model, IP addresses*)
- Specialty devices (*scanners, label printers, badge readers*)

## Section E: Data & Backups

Backup infrastructure and data protection requirements.

### Backup Infrastructure

- Backup platform (*Veeam, Datto, Acronis, native M365, etc.*)
- Backup targets (*local NAS, cloud, offsite*)
- Backup schedule (*frequency, retention*)
- Last successful restore test (*date & scope*)

### Critical Data

- Critical file shares (*paths, size, access groups*)
- Critical mailboxes (*executives, shared, compliance*)
- Databases to protect (*SQL, application DBs*)
- Retention requirements (*legal, compliance, business*)

### Recovery Objectives

- Target RPO (*recovery point objective*)
- Target RTO (*recovery time objective*)
- DR plan exists? (*documented disaster recovery*)

## Section F: Devices & Endpoints

Endpoint inventory and management policies.

### Device Inventory

- Windows workstations (count by OS version)
- macOS devices (count by version)
- Linux workstations (if applicable)
- Mobile devices (iOS, Android count)
- Tablets (iPad, Surface, etc.)

### Device Management

- Domain join status (Entra ID, on-prem AD, workgroup)
- MDM / endpoint management (Intune, Jamf, other)
- EDR/XDR agent coverage (gaps if any)
- Encryption status (BitLocker, FileVault)

### Policies

- Patch/compliance policy (current tooling)
- Local admin rights policy (who has admin, approval process)
- BYOD policy (if applicable)
- Hardware refresh cycle (typical replacement age)

## Section G: Constraints & Timing

Scheduling constraints and compliance considerations.

### Change Windows

- Change freeze / blackout windows (month-end, year-end, etc.)
- Preferred maintenance windows (after-hours, weekends)
- Critical business hours (when downtime is unacceptable)

### Compliance & Deadlines

- Compliance obligations (HIPAA, PCI-DSS, SOC 2, CMMC, etc.)
- Upcoming audits (dates, scope)
- Critical deadlines (renewals, go-lives, seasonal peaks)
- Cyber insurance requirements (specific controls required)

### Onboarding Preferences

- Target go-live date (when to complete transition)
- User training needs (security awareness, new tools)
- Communication preferences (how to announce changes to staff)

### Reference: Day-One Security Baselines

NLS implements these protections within the first week of onboarding:

- MFA/SSO enforced with least-privilege admin model
- EDR/XDR + email/DNS security active on all endpoints
- Patch hygiene & monitoring in place
- Backup validation & restore tests scheduled
- Documented support paths & SLAs communicated

### Reference: Four-Step Onboarding Timeline

Typical managed IT onboarding completes in 2-4 weeks:

- 1. Discovery & Options (Day 0-1):** 15-min discovery; options within one business day; risk scorecard.
- 2. Kickoff & Access (Week 1):** Team intro; comms & SLAs; secure access with MFA/least-privilege.
- 3. Secure & Stabilize (Week 1-2):** Baseline protections; patch; backup verification; monitoring.
- 4. Migrate & Go-Live (Week 2-4):** Migrations; standards; documentation; executive readout.

### Notes

### Questions or ready to start?

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