What is the SUSE® Public Cloud Program?
The SUSE Public Cloud Program enables cloud service providers to offer SUSE products in the cloud.

What is meant by “Bring Your Own Subscription”? 
“Bring Your Own Subscription” is an extension to the SUSE Public Cloud Program that allows enterprise customers to transfer existing SUSE product subscriptions to select SUSE Cloud Service Providers for use within their public cloud. With these portable subscriptions, customers benefit from the acquisition of compute resources through a cloud services provider, while seamlessly deploying SUSE products at no additional cost and continuing to receive direct support from SUSE global support services.

How can a SUSE customer participate?
A SUSE customer must have existing subscriptions which were ordered from the MLA/VLA price list and then must complete the online application for bringing their existing subscriptions to the cloud.

After completing the online application, how long will it take before I can use my subscription in the cloud?
The approval and set-up process usually takes three to five business days.

Can I change (add or reduce) the number of subscriptions after my initial Bring Your Own Subscription application?
To change the number of active subscriptions to be moved to the public cloud you must resubmit the online application and wait for approval.

What types of subscriptions can be moved?
Standard or Priority support subscriptions for eligible SUSE products may be moved. The level of support entitlement and the duration of the subscription that the enterprise customer owns for on-premise use does not change when transferring subscriptions for use in the public cloud. Eligible SUSE product subscriptions may not be used on-premise and in the cloud at the same time.

Can I use a SUSE product subscription purchased from a SUSE OEM partner?
SUSE product Basic subscriptions are not eligible for Bring Your Own Subscription. Standard or Priority subscriptions purchased from a SUSE OEM partner are eligible.

Can customers use four-socket or eight-socket subscriptions?
No; only two-socket subscriptions are eligible for transfer.

Should I use physical or virtual subscriptions?
Either the virtual or physical two-socket SKU can be transferred. However, both SKUs only permit the use of two public cloud instances.

To which public cloud service providers may I bring my own SUSE subscription?
You can bring your own subscription to select SUSE certified cloud providers, as indicated on the SUSE Public Cloud website.

How many SUSE subscriptions can I move to the cloud?
You may move any number of qualified SUSE product subscriptions.
How many virtual instances in the cloud are covered by one SUSE Linux Enterprise Server subscription?
An existing two-socket physical or virtual SUSE subscription can be used for two cloud instances in one of the SUSE certified public clouds. Running more than two cloud instances will require multiple subscriptions; for example, four cloud instances would require two subscriptions.

Is support available for my SUSE image in the public cloud?
Yes. For those cloud instances being run in a public cloud using a transferred SUSE subscription, you will receive support directly from SUSE global support services based on the underlying support entitlements just like you would if those instances were running in the data center.

How will my SUSE image get updates?
SUSE products running in the public cloud using portable subscriptions will be maintained in the same manner as if they were on-premise. Customers will continue to directly access the SUSE Customer Center or use the Subscription Management Tool (SMT) server or SUSE Manager to patch, update and maintain their cloud images just as they maintain on-premise servers.

Do customers incur any additional costs?
While there are no additional SUSE-related costs, cloud service provider charges for compute, storage and network traffic, including access to update servers, may apply.

Does Bring Your Own Subscription require customers to sign additional paperwork?
Customers who want to move SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 11 subscriptions to the cloud will need to sign an addendum to the SUSE End User License Agreement (EULA) which allows those subscriptions to be used in a public cloud. There is no additional paperwork necessary for customers who are using SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 12 or later.

Are there specific restrictions in the EULA addendum?
Yes; the addendum restricts activities such as publishing images in publicly available repositories.

How do I obtain images for the respective cloud providers that are eligible for Bring Your Own Subscription?
SUSE has made base product images publicly available in the customer portals of the select providers that are currently eligible under the Bring Your Own Subscription Program. Once your Bring Your Own Subscription application has been approved, SUSE will provide you with instructions on where to find the BYOS images.

Alternatively, a customer may build their own images with KIWI or SUSE Studio™. AWS images built using SUSE Studio should be uploaded manually (rather than using the one-click method through SUSE Studio) to prevent insertion of a billing code, which would result in additional charges being incurred by the customer. For Azure images built in SUSE Studio, the billing code is built into the image at runtime. Thus, all Azure images built in SUSE Studio will contain tracking information, and, therefore, additional charges will be incurred by the customer. For Google Compute Engine, users can build an image in SUSE Studio and manually upload it.

How does an instance get registered with the SUSE Customer Center?
For SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 11 SP3-based instances use the suse_register command or YaST®. For SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 12-based instances use the SUSEConnect command or YaST.

Is there any indicator in the SUSE Customer Center that shows me which subscriptions have been transferred to the cloud?
No; at this time a subscription transferred to the cloud is indistinguishable from a subscription used in the data center.
How do I know if a subscription in the cloud is actually being used?
A subscription transferred to the cloud is considered as being used whether the instance covered by the subscription is running or not. Transferred subscriptions do not provide a "use as you go" feature. SUSE products are still available at all public cloud service providers on-demand. Customers who wish to run SUSE products on-demand must use the standard SUSE images that are provided in the cloud service provider’s customer portal.

Can subscriptions be transferred to any or all of the select cloud service providers?
Yes. The transfer process is flexible and allows the use of a portable subscription in any of the SUSE certified cloud providers. However, customers must ensure that they have enough subscriptions to cover SUSE products running on-premise or in the public cloud.

Can I acquire special subscriptions that are for the public cloud?
No; this program makes the SUSE Linux Enterprise Server subscriptions portable to the public cloud and, thus, by extension treats instances running in a public cloud in the same fashion as a server in the data center.

Can a subscription be used for many instances if they do not overlap operational hours?
No; the Bring Your Own Subscription program does not provide for on-demand usage. A subscription is considered in use once an instance has been registered with the customer center. Therefore customers who want to run for short durations may choose to purchase SUSE products on-demand.
Contact your local SUSE Solutions Provider, or call SUSE at:

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