

Installing and Maintaining SQL Server

Purpose	Explain SQL Server version, edition, licensing, patch, and support options for CAREWare.
Who should do this	CAREWare administrators and IT staff who manage SQL Server.
Use this guide when you need to	You are selecting, upgrading, or maintaining SQL Server for a CAREWare installation.
Main warning	CAREWare should use the newest supported SQL Server version and the latest patch.

Quick tip

Use the latest SQL Server version and patch that is supported by Microsoft. Use SQL Express for small to medium-sized providers with 10 or fewer users. For larger CAREWare installations, install the full version of SQL Server.

Important: The Standard Edition is all that CAREWare needs; however, CAREWare also works with the Web and Enterprise editions.

Recommended SQL Server version

CAREWare should always work with the newest version of Microsoft SQL Server and the latest patch, so upgrading to the [latest SQL Server version](#) and patch is recommended. Though CAREWare can run on older versions that are still supported by Microsoft, we recommend running CAREWare on newer versions of SQL Server for security and support reasons.

Some CAREWare installations are managed by IT departments that handle SQL Server for the organization. If that is the case, staff for the organization should get guidance from the IT department staff. If the organization lacks an IT department that can help with acquiring SQL Server, there are two choices: buying SQL Server or installing the free SQL Express.

Choose an edition

As a rule of thumb, SQL Express should be fine for small to medium-sized providers with 10 or fewer users because it limits databases to 10 GB and runs on only one processor. For larger CAREWare installations, the full version of SQL Server should be installed.

Download and licensing information

To obtain the latest version of SQL Express, start here:

<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/sql-server/sql-server-downloads>

Some nonprofit providers have reported that they obtained the full version of SQL Server with user licenses at a deep discount through TechSoup, but larger institutions may not qualify. You can get the details here:

<http://www.techsoup.org/>

You can also get more information on the full version of SQL Server at this link:

<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/sql-server>

Patches and support

The latest patch for SQL Server can be downloaded [here](#).

Some versions of SQL Server are no longer updated or supported by Microsoft. Click [here](#) to review the lifecycle of SQL Server by version.

Related References

Document	Use it for
SQL Server Updates	Find and install the latest SQL Server updates.
SQL Server Downloads	Download SQL Server or SQL Express.
TechSoup	Review discounted software options for eligible nonprofits.
SQL Server Overview	Review information about the full version of SQL Server.
SQL Server Lifecycle	Review Microsoft support status by SQL Server version.