

# END-OF-AVAILABILITY NOTICE



## NetApp Cloud Tiering – FAQ

### 1. General Information

#### What is happening to NetApp Cloud Tiering?

NetApp Cloud Tiering will reach **End of Availability (EOA) on April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026**. After this date, no new customers will be onboarded, and the product will be removed from marketplaces. Existing customers will continue to have access until their current contract expires.

#### Why is NetApp Cloud Tiering being discontinued?

NetApp Cloud Tiering no longer aligns with NetApp's strategic direction. It focuses solely on moving cold data to the cloud and does not address the migration of critical production workloads.

#### What key dates should I know:

- **EOA: April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026**
- **End of Service (EOS) for PayGo: November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026**
- **EOS for BYOL: End of your contract term**
- **License renewal cutoff: April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

### 2. Impact on Data and Services

#### Will my data be affected?

No. All tiered data remains in your own cloud object storage (AWS S3, Azure Blob, Google Cloud Storage). You retain full access even after your license expires.

#### Will there be any service disruption?

No. After EOA, tiering from on-prem systems from NetApp Console will no longer work for new customers. They will need to use FabricPool via CLI or System Manager. Existing customers will continue to have access until their current contract expires.

**Are there any compliance or security concerns?**

No. Your data remains under your control in your own cloud storage.

**Is there any impact on performance after migrating to FabricPool?**

No. FabricPool offers the same tiering capabilities with ONTAP-native integration, ensuring consistent performance.

**Does the tiering mechanism continue to work for cloud services?**

Yes. The tiering mechanism continues to work as normal for Cloud Volumes ONTAP (CVO), Amazon FSx for NetApp ONTAP, Azure NetApp Files, and Google Cloud NetApp Volumes.

### **3. Migration to FabricPool**

**What is the migration path for current customers?**

-Customers will transition to FabricPool licenses, managed through ONTAP CLI or System Manager. NetApp provides comprehensive technical help that outlines all steps for installing the license and orchestrating and managing FabricPool via the CLI.

**Do I need to upgrade ONTAP to use FabricPool?**

-No upgrade is required

**Will FabricPool require additional configuration?**

If you already use ONTAP, the transition is straightforward. NetApp will provide detailed guides and proactive support.

**Will there be any cost for migration?**

-No migration fees apply. You only need a valid FabricPool license to continue tiering.

**Will my existing tiered data need to be moved again?**

No. Your data remains in your cloud object storage. The migration only affects the management layer, not the data location.

**What happens if I do nothing?**

You can continue using NetApp Cloud Tiering until your license expires. After that, tiering will stop unless you migrate to FabricPool.

### **4. Licensing and Pricing**

**Can I purchase additional licenses or renew my contract?**

No. After **April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026** NetApp Cloud Tiering licenses cannot be purchased, extended, or renewed. To continue leveraging the tiering mechanism, you can purchase a FabricPool license instead.

### **What happens to pricing and financials?**

FabricPool pricing remains unchanged, and the End of Availability for NetApp Cloud Tiering will have no impact on FabricPool license costs.

### **What happens if I have multiple clusters using NetApp Cloud Tiering?**

Each cluster will need a FabricPool license. For example, if you have three clusters, you will need three FabricPool licenses.

### **Does FabricPool support “federated licensing” like Cloud Tiering did?**

No. FabricPool licenses are cluster-specific and do not support federated licensing.

### **Is there a Pay-As-You-Go (PayGo) option for FabricPool?**

No. FabricPool licenses are only available as BYOL (Bring Your Own License for 1 year and 3 years).

## **5. Management and Configuration**

### **Do I need to deploy a new Console agent for FabricPool?**

No. FabricPool does not require a Console agent. Management is handled directly through ONTAP tools.

### **What happens to my existing Console agent?**

- If you use the Console agent for other NetApp services (such as Backup and Recovery, Cloud Volumes ONTAP, etc.), you can continue using it as usual.
- If you only use the Console agent for Cloud Tiering, you can remove it once you’ve switched to CLI or System Manager for management.

### **How do I install FabricPool licenses?**

FabricPool licenses are installed **exclusively via CLI**. Installation through BlueXP is not supported.

### **Can I install my new FabricPool license via System Manager?**

No. License installation can only be performed through the ONTAP CLI. However, once the license is installed, you can manage FabricPool either through the CLI or System Manager. NetApp’s technical teams are actively working on enabling license installation via System Manager in the future.

### **Can I configure Storage Class Lifecycle Management via CLI or System Manager?**

This feature was available in NetApp Cloud Tiering, but going forward, lifecycle management will need to be configured directly through your cloud provider’s console. Hyperscaler consoles (AWS, Azure, Google Cloud) offer robust and flexible lifecycle policies, giving you full control and advanced options for managing your storage classes.

## **6. Notifications and Resources**

### **How will I be notified about these changes?**

NetApp will communicate updates via email, the support portal, and outreach from your account team.

### **What resources will NetApp provide?**

Migration guides, FAQs, dedicated account support, and proactive communication.