

Steve Sisolak  
Governor



Laura E. Freed  
Director

Matthew Tuma  
Deputy Director

Alan Cunningham  
State Chief Information Officer

Timothy Galluzi  
Administrator

STATE OF NEVADA  
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION  
*Enterprise IT Services Division*

100 N. Stewart Street, Suite 100 | Carson City, Nevada 89701  
Phone: (775) 684-5800 | [www.it.nv.gov](http://www.it.nv.gov) | Fax: (775) 687-9097

**MEMORANDUM**

October 5, 2021

**TO:** All Agencies  
**FROM:** Alan Cunningham, State Chief Information Officer  
**SUBJECT:** Microsoft Windows 11 Release

Windows 11, the newest version of the Microsoft operating system, was released today. Please be advised that Windows 11 is not yet supported by state security and support systems. No action is required by end users at this time. All agency information security officers (ISOs) have been notified that state agencies should not upgrade any systems to Windows 11 until all state support systems are ready, likely in early 2022.

Windows 10 will continue to be supported by Microsoft until October 14, 2025. Similar to the process all state agencies went through to upgrade systems from Windows 7 to Windows 10, state agencies will need to ensure all computers with Microsoft operating systems have a Windows 11 license before October 14, 2025.

As part of the upcoming budget build cycle for fiscal years 2024 and 2025, agencies should plan to purchase Windows 11 upgrade licenses. Though Microsoft expects to offer a free upgrade for all eligible licenses by mid-2022, most state licenses (e.g., licenses included with the purchase of a Dell computer and Windows 10 upgraded licenses) will **not** be eligible for the free upgrade to Windows 11. Other licenses (e.g., licenses purchased directly from Microsoft or via an enterprise licensing agreement) may be eligible for a free upgrade. Questions regarding Microsoft licensing should be directed to David Stewart at [david.stewart@microsoft.com](mailto:david.stewart@microsoft.com).

To avoid unnecessary licensing upgrade costs, all new Dell computer purchases should include Windows 11 Professional licensing with downgrade rights for Windows 10. Downgrade rights allow users to run Windows 10 until systems are ready to upgrade to Windows 11. Agencies who have recently received quotes to purchase new Dell computers but not yet ordered them should review the quote prior to placing the order with the State Purchasing Division to ensure that the correct Windows license is included in the quote.

CC: Kevin Doty, Administrator, State Purchasing Division  
Daniel Marlow, Administrator, Administrative Services Division