Step 2: Research Cloud Trends, Best Practices, and Migration Issues

The cloud computing revolution is redefining ways that companies of all sizes use information technology. The cloud landscape shifts rapidly, and current trends reflect this rapid pace of change. You likely got an idea about this in the last step when you conducted research on cloud architecture. Now, continue gathering information for your final report by assessing:

* issues outside the company, such as emerging issues in the industry, regulatory changes, and general [trends in cloud computing](https://lti.umuc.edu/topic) to gain an understanding of how these issues may influence BallotOnline's decisions;
* [best practices for cloud implementation](https://lti.umuc.edu/topic) and assess whether BallotOnline can benefit from these;
* [cloud migration strategies](https://lti.umuc.edu/topic) for the application and data, since BallotOnline is moving an existing web application to the cloud, making sure that the application is configured properly for the system architecture of your cloud deployment; and
* [IT change management](https://lti.umuc.edu/topic)techniques that could help BallotOnline make this transition.