

Understand
What Your
SOC 2 Needs To
Cover

Timing Is
Everything — It
Can Take a While

Assess Whether a Type I Report Will Meet Your Needs

SOC 2 Is an Open-Book Test Vet and Monitor Vendors Before Engagement How Akram
Assurance
Advisory & Tax Can
Help

#### Why SOC 2 Compliance Matters?

In today's digital-first world, trust is currency. If your business handles customer data—especially in SaaS, fintech, or cloud services—SOC2 compliance isn't optional; it's expected.

This actionable checklist helps you:



Understand
the core
elements of
SOC 2



Prepare strategically, not reactively



Avoid common pitfalls and delays



Show your customers and partners you take data protection seriously





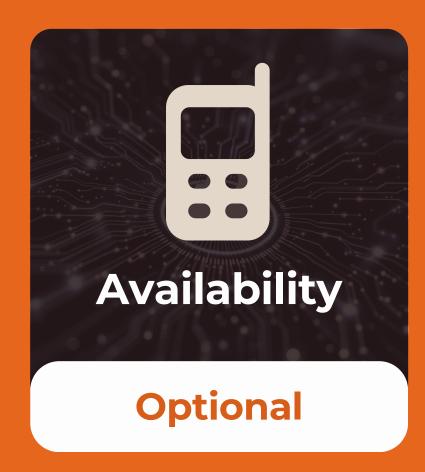
Let's break it down into five essential steps—and see how **Akram Assurance Advisory & Tax**can guide you every step of the way.



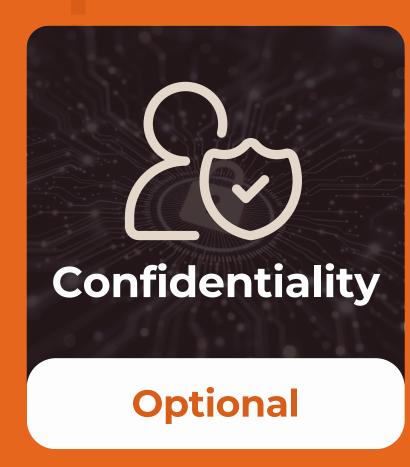
## Understand What Your SOC 2 Needs To Cover

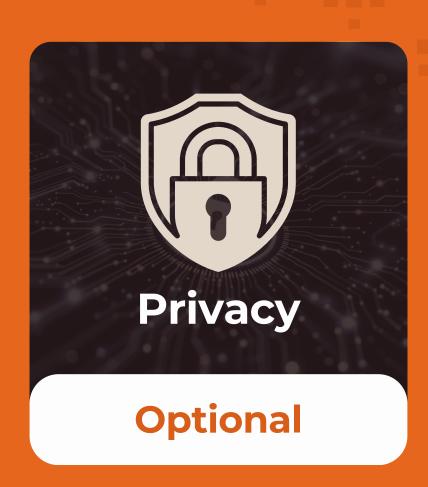
Start by scoping your audit. SOC2 includes five Trust Services Criteria:













Most companies begin with Security, but your industry may demand more.



## Timing Is Everything — It Can Take a While

SOC2 compliance is **not overnight**. Expect a few months for:

1 2 3 4

Control remediation Policy implementation Review

Plan ahead to avoid delays.



## Assess Whether a Type I Report Will Meet Your Needs

SOC2 reports come in two types:

- Type I: Are your controls in place today?
- Type II: Do your controls work over time?

Type I is faster and often ideal for startups or investor readiness.





#### SOC 2 Is an Open-Book Test

Auditors provide the full test format and expectations up front.

- Review each criterion
- Document how your controls meet them
- Prepare and rehearse your evidence

You're not guessing—you're demonstrating.





#### Vet and Monitor Vendors Before Engagement

Third-party risk is your risk. Be proactive:

- Conduct vendor due diligence
- Ask for their SOC reports
- Set up monitoring for changes or incidents

SOC2 success depends on your ecosystem.





# How Akram Assurance Advisory & Tax Can Help

Akram Assurance supports companies across industries in preparing for and passing SOC2 audits with confidence:

- Readiness & gap assessments
- Policy drafting and control mapping
- Vendor risk programs
- Internal team training
- Type I & II support
- Audit coordination with top firms





### Partner with Akram to turn \$\diamondsymbol{\pi}\$ SOC 2 from a burden into a business advantage.





#### Let's get started today!