

Price list for QSFP-DD active optical modules for data center interconnection



Overview

Cisco Transceiver Modules - Learn product details such as features and benefits, as well as hardware and software specifications.

Key Takeaways

QSFP-DD coherent optical modules for DCI range from under \$2,000 for short-reach 400G SR8 modules to over \$130,000 for long-haul coherent ZR+ OEM modules, with third-party alternatives offering significant savings.

- 400G QSFP-DD Modules
 - SR8 (Short Reach, in-rack/cross-row): Typically priced between \$1,400 and \$1,800 from reputable third-party vendors. These are the standard entry point for 400G adoption in data centers and are widely used for short-distance connectivity .
 - DR4/FR4 (Medium Reach, between rows or campus links): Prices are competitive due to a robust third-party ecosystem, generally lower than OEM LR4 modules, reflecting market compression over the past 18 months .
 - LR4 (Long Reach, DCI): OEM modules can exceed \$10,000, making them a significant cost factor in DCI deployments. Third-party alternatives can reduce costs substantially .

- ZR/ZR+ (Coherent, long-haul DCI): OEM ZR+ modules for long-haul applications can cost over \$130,000, while third-party options provide dramatic absolute savings. These modules support distances up to 120 km (ZR) and beyond 1000 km (ZR+) over DWDM networks .

800G QSFP-DD Modules

- 800G ZR/ZR+ coherent optics: Prices are still stabilizing. Buyers can expect to pay roughly 60–70% of OEM list prices for proven third-party 800G transceivers. OEM modules are often preferred for critical production workloads due to DOM integration and firmware compatibility .

- Applications: 800G ZR modules are ideal for single-span DCI links up to 120 km, while 800G ZR+ modules extend to metro or regional interconnects beyond 1000 km .

Key Considerations

- OEM vs Third-Party: Third-party modules can offer substantial cost savings, especially for coherent ZR/ZR+ optics, without compromising performance if compatibility is verified .
- Volume Discounts: Vendors often provide tiered pricing, which can significantly reduce the total cost for large-scale deployments .
- Total Cost of Ownership (TCO): Beyond module price, consider power consumption, reliability, and maintenance when planning DCI infrastructure .
- Compatibility: Ensure QSFP-DD modules are compatible with existing switch/router ports and support required DWDM distances .

Summary

For data center interconnects, short-reach 400G SR8 modules are the most cost-effective, while coherent ZR/ZR+ modules represent the largest line-item expense. Third-party alternatives provide meaningful savings, particularly for long-haul DCI deployments. 800G QSFP-DD coherent modules are emerging, with prices still maturing, and OEM modules are often chosen for mission-critical applications .

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