DATA SHEET

Zscaler™ Client Connector

Fast, secure, reliable access to all applications from any location or device—with a single app

In today's world, users are everywhere and accessing all their applications—in the cloud and data center—using all their devices. This new, hybrid workforce demands fast and seamless access to business applications, but that speed can't come at the risk of exposing business data to risk. IT leaders have turned to Zscaler, and Zscaler Client Connector, to help them connect users to the data they need to get their work done.

In the past, the majority of users worked inside the office, so it made sense to rely on network-based controls to allow users to access the internet and business apps. But now the workforce may be anywhere, and IT teams no longer control the networks employees use, so they lack visibility into what users are accessing.

Since users require the same access experience from home or a cafe as they have when they're in the office, access controls should no longer be anchored in the data center. They should be globally distributed and as close to the user as possible. Yet, many teams continue to rely on VPNs, which backhaul users to a data center, placing them on the corporate network, increasing the risk of lateral movement and over-privileged access. Instead of granting access based on an IP address, controls should be user-centric, tied to an authenticated user's identity.

Work-from-anywhere also means that access services must be flexible enough to extend to every user device from any network. Laptops, smartphones, point-of-sale (POS) systems, RF scanners—all of these devices are used for business, and all of them require fast, secure connections to business apps.

To help employees and partners get their work done using a range of devices, IT must move away from legacy solutions and look to simplify access with a new approach to connectivity.

Zscaler Client Connector

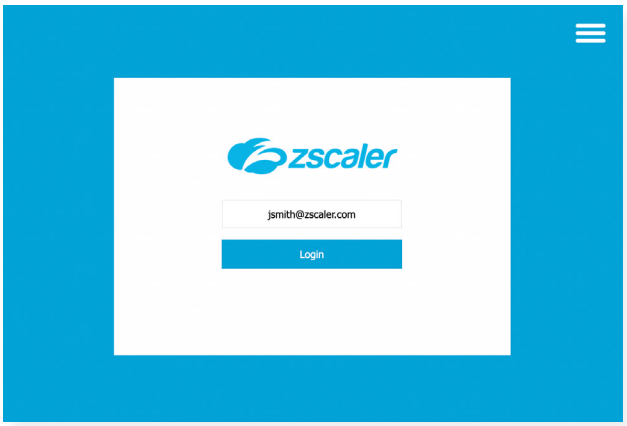
One app for zero trust access to all business applications

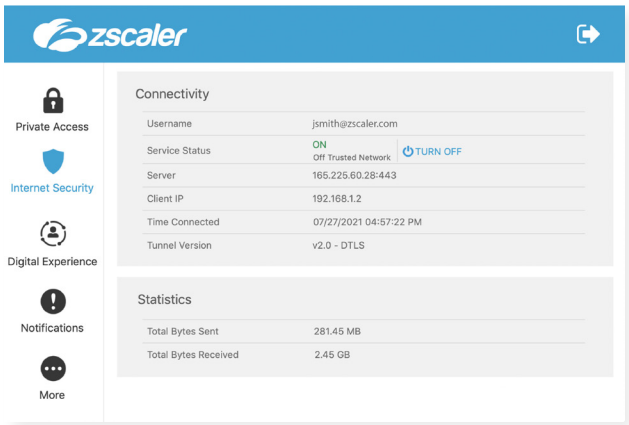
Zscaler Client Connector is included as part of the Zscaler Internet Access™ (ZIA™) and Zscaler Private Access™ (ZPA™) services. Client Connector is a lightweight application that runs on a user's endpoint device. Client Connector automatically forwards all user traffic to the closest Zscaler service edge—one of more than 150 around the globe—ensuring that security and access policies are enforced across all devices, locations, and applications. Zscaler Client Connector automatically determines if a user is looking to access the web, a SaaS app, or an internal app, and then routes traffic to the appropriate Zscaler service.

A seamless access experience for end-users

Users can access business-critical applications from any device, without pausing to think about what access method is required. There's no VPN to spin up each time the user connects to a new network, and the connector integrates with identity and multifactor authentication (MFA) providers for a frictionless experience.

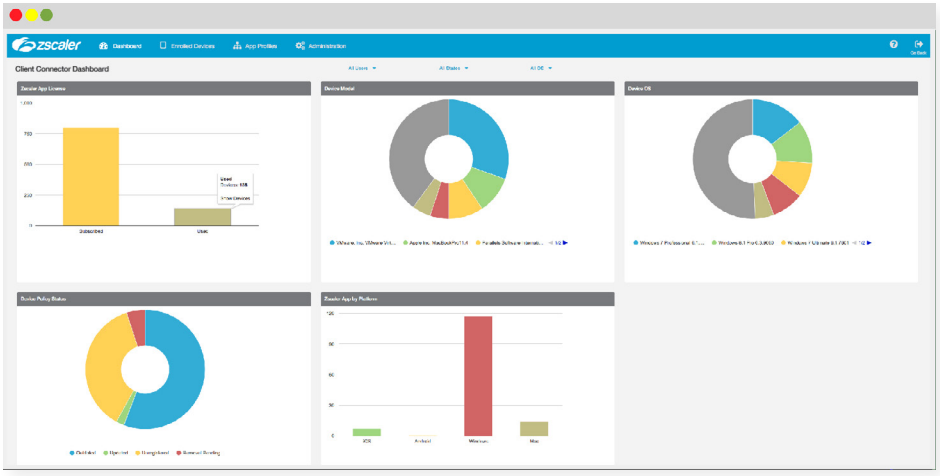
Zscaler Client Connector automatically forwards traffic to the Zscaler service edge location that is closest to the user, ensuring access is brought as close to the user as possible resulting in quick, secure access to the internet, SaaS, and internal applications. With Client Connector, there's no need for PAC files, an IPsec VPN, authentication cookies, or any extra end-user steps.

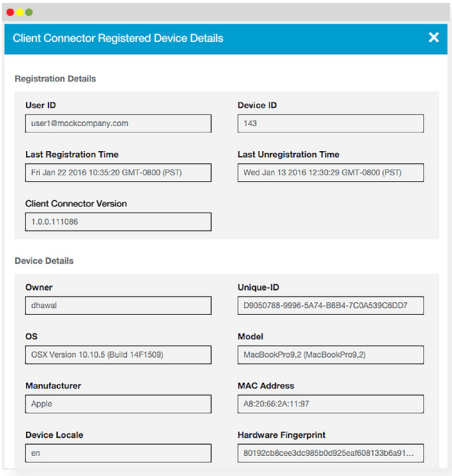




Visibility and control for IT teams

For the first time, IT teams are empowered through enriched insight and management over device data through the Zscaler Client Connector administration portal. They receive additional insight into business app performance, network performance, and device performance with Zscaler Digital Experience (which integrates with Client Connector). This integration makes a variety of valuable metrics available to the IT admins and service desk professionals who need them.





Benefits of Client Connector

Traffic is intelligently routed for an optimal user experience

Client Connector automatically routes mobile traffic over the optimal path to the closest Zscaler edge location. Additionally, Client Connector detects trusted networks and captive portals to prioritize user experience.

Enhanced visibility into user activity and device posture

The Zscaler Client Connector portal provides IT admins with a comprehensive view of users, devices, and policies specifically for Client Connector. In addition to providing a holistic view of deployed devices, Client Connector's centralized dashboard enables the use of granularly defined policies for individual devices.

Easy onboarding with silent deployment through MDM

Client Connector can be silently deployed via MDM solutions, Microsoft Intune, LDAP, or ADFS to minimize friction on endpoint devices. There is no action required by the user since silent deployment auto-installs, enrolls the device, and verifies the SSL certificates.

Enforce enrollment of Client Connector prior to access

IT can require the enrollment of user devices prior to accessing apps. IT also has the ability to prevent users from turning off Client Connector, so they can ensure that all traffic is being properly secured.

Device posture and fingerprinting for context-aware access and security

Through integrations with endpoint security providers, such as Microsoft, CrowdStrike, and VMware Carbon Black, Client Connector can enforce context-aware security by identifying variable criteria, including device health, operating system, and whether or not an endpoint solution is running. By coupling user credentials with a specific device, IT can deepen security and prevent compromised devices from accessing sensitive data.

Wide support of devices and operating systems used for work

Zscaler Client Connector supports most device types, including laptops, smartphones, tablets, POS systems, and RF scanners (mobile computers) on platforms such as iOS, Android, Windows, MacOS, CentOS 8, and Ubuntu 20.04.

Zscaler Client Connector (formerly Zscaler App or Z App) is a lightweight application deployed on the end-user device that automatically forwards all user traffic through the Zscaler Zero Trust Exchange™ to enforce policy and access controls while improving performance.

BENEFITS

- Zero trust policies follow users regardless of device, location, or application accessed
- User experience is enhanced, and app access is streamlined
- Centralized control means policy changes are enforced immediately, worldwide
- IT can track and monitor the activities of users and devices
- Supports most popular operating systems and device types (laptops, smartphones, tablets, etc.)

SUPPORTED SYSTEMS

- iOS 9 or later
- Android 5 or later
- Windows 7 and later
- Mac OSX 10.10 and later
- CentOS 8
- Ubuntu 20.04

Getting started

Client Connector's one-step enrollment process makes deployment easy, with IT overseeing the rollout of laptop deployments and users able to download the app for their phones and tablets on the Apple and Google Play stores. A further layer of security is added through instant multifactor authentication for those who use single sign-on (SSO). Our step-by-step guide covers everything you need to know about deploying and configuring Zscaler Client Connector.

Get Client Connector

Client Connector for Laptops

Windows/macOS/Linux

For Windows/macOS/Linux, contact your administrator

Client Connector for Phones and Tablets

iOS | Download Now

Android | Download Now

CLIENT CONNECTOR	LAPTOP			PHONES / TABLETS	
OS Feature	Win	Mac	Linux	Android	iOS
ZDX	✓	✓			
TWLP	✓	✓	✓		
Tunnel 1.0	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tunnel 2.0	✓	✓	✓		
Packet filter mode	✓				
Route-based mode	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Device posture	✓	✓	✓ *Limited	✓	✓
CLI-based client					
FIPS	✓	✓	✓		
ZPA with third-party VPN	✓	✓	✓ *Validated with Pulse; AnyConnect to be validated		✓
Fetch logs remotely	✓	✓		✓	
Built-in packet capture	✓	✓	✓		
DTLS for ZIA	✓	✓	✓		
DTLS for ZPA	*Coming soon	*Coming soon	*Coming soon	*Coming soon	*Coming soon
Client Connector can install the SSL cert for SSL inspection	✓	*Apple changed the security policy	✓		
Integrated Windows Authentication (IWA)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Client Connector can automatically re-try auth for SSO	✓	✓			
CRWD posture check	✓	✓			
Strict enforcement	✓	✓	✓		

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