



Enabling The Modern Classroom: A Security Stack for the Backpack



The proliferation of student devices in grades kindergarten through 12, coupled with the demand for access to numerous educational applications and Internet-based services make blocking inappropriate content and providing a comprehensive defense against Internet based threats and cyber-crime a top priority. Cloud-based content filtering and security solutions provide a flexible and affordable way to meet the ever-evolving threat landscape as well as address the dynamic nature of technology in the classroom. Zscaler stands ready to meet this challenge with a Zero Trust approach that allows the right users the right data access at the right time.

The Zero Trust Approach

We have “new math.” Here’s “new network security.”

With so much Internet traffic coming in and out of schools, a shift to a Zero Trust Architecture (ZTA) is a logical step. ZTA is a security concept based on the belief that organizations should not automatically trust anything inside or outside their perimeter and instead must verify anything and everything trying to connect to their systems before granting access. This mirrors the approach to physical security of school campuses and can now be applied to the virtual campus students are increasingly accessing and occupying.

With Zscaler Zero Trust solutions, your school district can:

→ **Get always-on, identity-based protection**

By moving security to the cloud, all users, data and locations get always-on security regardless of location of the user. Your security policy goes everywhere your users go.

→ **Embrace a cloud-ready network platform**

Direct-internet connections to a cloud security platform ensures a fast, secure user experience. Reduce backhauling to the datacenter and appliance costs, improve performance and latency, and simplify network administration.

→ **Defend with the ultimate security stack**

A security stack as a service improves protection. Multiple technologies expertly work in unison to stop threats. Cloud services enable unlimited inspection capacity, even across SSL, and scalability to more users or security services as needed.

→ **Unrival availability backed by “Five Nines” service-level agreement (SLA)**

Zscaler is a cloud-native security service with over 150 data centers spread throughout the world. High availability and resiliency are a requirement for a carrier-grade connectivity service. Zscaler guarantees 99.999% uptime and latency of 100ms or less for core products with a customer compensation scale should the mark be missed.

Educate from Anywhere

Secure Internet and Web Connectivity

Zscaler Internet Access (ZIA) is a secure internet and web gateway delivered as a service from the cloud. Zscaler’s cloud-based proxy provides a secure connection to the web, sitting between your users and the internet, inspecting every byte of traffic inline across multiple security techniques, including SSL.

For schools and their district offices, ZIA establishes a standards-based router tunnel to the closest Zscaler data center. For students and staff outside of district buildings, traffic can be automatically forwarded via our lightweight Zscaler Client Connector or clientless traffic forwarding. Regardless of where your students, teachers and faculty connect—their home, after school extracurriculars, or the classroom—they are provided consistent device protection and content filtering. Not only are you able to provide secure access to everyone but you also realize the scalability benefits of a true cloud platform, consuming services you need today with the ability to activate and expand as your needs grow.



The ABC's of Zscaler in K12

A: Real time Alerting, Analysis, Logging and Automated Reports

Student and staff web behavior is accessible, alertable, and analyzable no matter where the user is browsing. Zscaler will retain log history and corresponding reports within the Zscaler platform for 180 days and also supports tight integrations with many of the leading SIEM and logging platforms, allowing indefinite data retention. Zscaler integrates with your current identity solutions such as Active Directory and SAML 2.0.

B: BYOD Security and Visibility

ZIA supports MacOS, Windows, iOS, Android and Chromebooks. For BYOD solutions, Zscaler can accommodate client-based or clientless content & security filtering options.

C: Compliance

To aid schools and organizations to be compliant with the CIPA requirements, ZIA provides a predefined URL filtering rule and a control to enable content filtering for CIPA compliance. It also provides a CIPA compliance report which gives insights into the traffic and users that are blocked from accessing prohibited content based on CIPA compliance rule. Additionally, Zscaler provides support for various data protection regulations—PCI, HIPAA, and GDPR—that require you to put measures in place that protect sensitive information on your network and prevent exposure to unauthorized parties.

D: Defend against Ransomware

While ransomware attacks are uniquely crafted to each target, they exploit common gaps in traditional security solutions. Zscaler provides an advanced approach to eliminating common blind spots and stopping ransomware cold. With Advanced Threat Protection and Cloud Sandbox, Zscaler delivers protection against ransomware, zero-day threats, and unknown malware. The Zscaler security cloud ensures that every packet from every user, on- or off-network, is fully inspected from start to finish, with unlimited capacity to inspect SSL encrypted traffic.

G: G Suite and Office 365 Experience is Critical for Effective Instruction

SaaS Productivity suites function best in low latency environments. Zscaler peers directly with many of Google & Microsoft's points of presence in the United States. Direct peering allows Zscaler to optimize the traffic path to these critical services, providing the best possible experience for your students and staff.

M: Social Media Controls

You can create granular rules to control access and functionality of specific social media sites. Social media and other cloud apps are organized into categories to facilitate defining rules for similar applications. Additionally, you can define a daily quota by bandwidth or time. When users browse to these sites after their quota has been reached, the Zscaler service displays a message that explains that the content can no longer be viewed because they have exceeded their daily quota.

FLEXIBLE ARCHITECTURE FOR K12 & OTHER E-RATE CUSTOMERS

FCC's E-Rate program makes telecommunications and information services more affordable for schools and libraries. With funding from the Universal Service Fund, E-Rate provides discounts for telecommunications, Internet access, and internal connections to eligible schools and libraries.

For more information visit <https://erateproviderservices.com/zscaler-home/>

P: Protect Personal Identifiable Information (PII)

Between a lack of awareness, unintentional user actions, system glitches, and increasingly sophisticated malicious activities, you run the risk of your sensitive data being exposed—and that can cause a range of problems, from fines to enrollment loss, legal & political ramifications, and damage to your institution's reputation. Zscaler enables data protection that follows users and the applications they are accessing, always protecting you against data loss. Zscaler inspects traffic inline, encrypted or not, and ensures SaaS and public cloud applications are secure, giving you the protection and visibility you need.

S: Safe Search & YouTube for Schools

Block inappropriate or explicit images from search engine results (Google, Yahoo!, Bing, etc.). Enabling Safe Search in Zscaler forces end users' web browsers to use Safe Search - users cannot bypass the restriction without sufficient permissions. Additionally, Zscaler provides support for YouTube for Schools, which enables schools to access educational videos on YouTube EDU and specify which videos students are allowed to access.

V: Visibility into Cloud Apps

Applications have moved to the cloud and faculty and students require flexible access, connecting direct-to-cloud. This creates a significant blind spot, as users bypass gateway security controls, allowing sensitive information to flow out of your network—or when that data is hidden in SSL traffic you can't fully inspect it. Zscaler inspects and enforces DLP policies on data in transit and assists in identifying inadvertently exposed assets.

Learn more at www.zscaler.com/industries/public-sector/education

About Zscaler

Zscaler (NASDAQ: ZS) accelerates digital transformation so that customers can be more agile, efficient, resilient, and secure. The Zscaler Zero Trust Exchange protects thousands of customers from cyberattacks and data loss by securely connecting users, devices, and applications in any location. Distributed across more than 150 data centers globally, the SASE-based Zero Trust Exchange is the world's largest inline cloud security platform. Learn more at zscaler.com or follow us on Twitter [@zscaler](https://twitter.com/zscaler).

