Enabling telework for State and Local Government

Use the cloud as an alternative to VPN for fast, secure access to apps across hybrid cloud.
Telework suddenly a top priority for government agencies

Millions of government workers found themselves working from home due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Normally, most state and local teams anticipate about 30% of users working from home, but in just a matter of weeks that number climbed to 70%, or more. This can mean thousands of additional users in some cases. The massive surge has created a need to provide fast, secure application access to applications in order to keep employees safe, and productive during the outbreak. State, local government needs a solution that can support a mix of state-owned laptop devices as well as personal BYOD devices (especially since many laptop orders are backed up), can be deployed quickly and ensure sensitive data remains secure.

Legacy technology makes supporting telework a challenge

Forced to place other transformation projects on hold, and asked to prioritize solutions that can enable telework, IT leaders are scrambling to support this new work life. The challenge is that the legacy access technologies they have already invested in (i.e. VPN), for this express purpose, requires hardware that takes months to ship, require weeks to set up, are constrained by capacity limits and create a poor experience that impacts user productivity. They force traffic to be backhauled through a datacenter just to get access to the Internet, SaaS apps or public cloud applications, leading to unwanted latency. Not to mention, this forces IT to invest in expensive, short-term, fixes that lead to purchasing outdated infrastructure that may never result in a return on investment once COVID-19 is over. In the end, legacy technology winds up causing more harm than help.
Embrace cloud and make telework a success for government

To help increase the effectiveness of their staff and ensure the continuity of their mission, government teams can turn to modern technologies.

Instead of buying more hardware, and waiting for it to be shipped, many IT leaders have already turned to cloud-delivered access services instead. Zscaler has helped several agencies support telework by connecting their authorized users to apps through a distributed cloud service that takes traffic directly out to the Internet. This cloud-based alternative to VPN enables seamless access from a variety of user devices (State-owned or BYOD), to applications that not only run in the datacenter, but to those that have been migrated to public cloud (i.e. AWS or Azure) as well. The user experience is consistent across all apps, and the service only takes days to deploy, whether within the datacenter or on public cloud.

Meet the Zscaler Service

The Zscaler Cloud Security Service applies policies set by the agency to securely connect the right user to the right application. Unlike traditional hub-and-spoke network architectures where traffic is backhauled over dedicated wide area networks via VPNs to centralized gateways, Zscaler routes traffic, locally and securely, directly to the internet over broadband and cellular connections. The zero trust architecture shifts security functions to focus on protecting the user/device in any location, rather than securing a network perimeter that is eroding away. This ensures that users get secure, fast, and optimized connections, no matter where they are connecting from or device they are using.
**BENEFITS OF ZSCALER FOR GOVERNMENT**

- **Maintain productivity** – Users remain productive with fast, seamless access experience
- **Support for all environments** - Zscaler supports access to datacenter, hybrid or multi-cloud
- **Support for a variety of devices** - Zscaler runs on government-owned laptops as well as personal BYOD
- **100% cloud-delivered** - Zscaler requires no appliances to manage or deploy
- **Maximize investments** – Zscaler integrates with identity providers, MFA, endpoint security, VDI, SIEM etc.

Make Telework a Success with Zscaler

To learn more about Zscaler, and how we can help you during this time of need, schedule a meeting with our team. We'll show you a demo of the solution and guide you through some best practices for getting the solution deployed in just days. Visit [www.zscaler.com](http://www.zscaler.com)

Zscaler for Government

Born and built for the cloud, Zscaler represents the zenith of scalability, enabling agencies to securely connect users to the internet and applications, regardless of device, location, or network.


About Zscaler

Zscaler enables the world’s leading organizations to securely transform their networks and applications for a mobile and cloud-first world. Its flagship services, Zscaler Internet Access™ and Zscaler Private Access™, create fast, secure connections between users and applications, regardless of device, location, or network. Zscaler services are 100% cloud delivered and offer the simplicity, enhanced security, and improved user experience that traditional appliances or hybrid solutions are unable to match. Used in more than 185 countries, Zscaler operates a multitenant, distributed cloud security platform that protects thousands of customers from cyberattacks and data loss. Learn more at [zscaler.com](http://zscaler.com) or follow us on Twitter [@zscaler](https://twitter.com/zscaler).