



MCNC Chooses Zscaler to Provide Secure Internet Access for Over 1.5 Million Students in North Carolina

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Technology Nonprofit Chooses Leader in Cloud Security to Provide Secure, Scalable Solution for all 115 School Districts and Charter Schools

SAN JOSE, Calif.--([BUSINESS WIRE](#))--Zscaler, Inc., the leading cloud security company, today announced that MCNC, the non-profit operator of the North Carolina Research and Education Network (NCREN), selected Zscaler™ Internet Access (ZIA) to provide secure Internet access to 1.5 million students, as well as teachers and staff in North Carolina.

MCNC is a technology nonprofit that builds, owns, and operates a leading-edge broadband infrastructure for North Carolina's research, education, non-profit healthcare and other community institutions. As these organizations have become more reliant on digital resources and the Internet, MCNC wanted to expand its technology portfolio and offer shared services to their customers to best deliver scalable, comprehensive security.

The proliferation of student devices in grades kindergarten through 12, coupled with the demand for access to numerous educational applications and Internet-based services, made blocking inappropriate content and providing a comprehensive defense against Internet based threats and cyber-crime a top priority. MCNC turned to the cloud for better performance, scalability, and reduced complexity in managing disparate technologies and devices.

"Schools in North Carolina rely on technology and digital resources for instruction, testing and school administration, and protecting these resources is critically important to achieve their academic missions," said Chris Beal, MCNC's Chief Information Security Officer. "MCNC needed a solution that could scale centrally instead of trying to scale at each customer's premise to best meet the growing demand from students, teachers and staff in a wide geographic area. Zscaler gives us that ability as well as an efficient way to maintain protections and controls to ensure students have a safe educational experience."

MCNC chose ZIA to provide scalable, secure Internet access for the educational institutions and their students – regardless of the device they're using. ZIA delivers an organization's security needs via the world's largest security cloud, protecting users with policy-based Internet access and real time, inline protection from malware and other more advanced threats. By locating the security stack in the cloud, Zscaler brings the Internet gateway closer to the user for a faster experience, and enables organizations to embrace local Internet breakouts to realize the benefits of cloud and mobility.

"We are proud to support the mission of MCNC and NCREN to protect students, faculty, and staff of North Carolina schools when using the Internet," said James Kohler, head of Public Sector for Zscaler. "Schools and districts are challenged to enhance public instruction through digital learning while at the same time protecting students from inappropriate content and Internet threats. And they have to be able to scale to meet the growing demands of each campus. Zscaler is an ideal solution to meet these challenges."

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 percent cloud-delivered and offer the simplicity, enhanced security, and improved user experience that traditional appliances are unable to match. Used in more than 185 countries, Zscaler operates the world's largest cloud security platform, protecting thousands of enterprises and government agencies from cyberattacks and data loss. Learn more at zscaler.com or follow us on Twitter @zscaler.

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About MCNC

MCNC, a technology nonprofit that builds, owns and operates the North Carolina Research and Education Network (NCREN), has served research, education, non-profit health care and other community institutions with Internet connectivity in the state for more than 30 years. NCREN is the fundamental broadband infrastructure for more than 500 of these institutions including all K-20 education in North Carolina. As one of the nation's premier middle-mile networks, MCNC leverages high-speed fiber on NCREN to customize Internet services and related applications for each customer while supporting private service providers in bringing cost-efficient connectivity to rural and underserved communities in North Carolina. Visit www.mcnc.org. MCNC Social: [Facebook](#), Twitter [@MCNC](#), [YouTube](#), [Google+](#), [LinkedIn](#).

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