



HPE Aruba Networking ClearPass for K-12

Implement a robust network security with
FCC Cybersecurity Pilot Program





Reduce network security risks and manage network access with our robust Network Access Control (NAC) offering. HPE Aruba Networking ClearPass helps network administrators maximize their network security by authenticating and authorizing every device attaching to the network, ensuring authenticated devices get the right access. ClearPass customers can now leverage the FCC Cybersecurity Pilot Program for Schools and Libraries to implement a complete and secure solution.

The challenge

Security is a top concern for every district. With BYOD and IoT devices flooding the school network, the district needs an IT army to manage devices and access. Students, teachers, and administrators are no longer confined to a fixed workplace; these end-users expect the same kind of seamless digital connectivity across the campus on all their devices. The goal for IT is to provide anytime, anywhere connectivity without sacrificing security and maintaining visibility and control without impacting user experience.

The IoT labs, usage of VR in classrooms, digital exams, and digital tournaments add more demand for secure network access deployment. In addition to this, school districts are required to comply with a growing number of legal requirements for providing network access.

Digital compliance and equity requirements now require that security greater than pre-shared key networks are available to comply. Despite limited resources, schools are focused on learning and assessment, while trying to keep up with rapidly transforming network challenges and demands.

The value proposition

HPE Aruba Networking ClearPass enables K-12 districts to offer the same robust, enterprise-grade network access control capabilities that is being used by enterprise and government customers. K-12 districts can authenticate and authorize each device connecting to the network and can easily separate the network access of guests, students, teachers, facilities, and internet of things (IoT) devices. Offering a strong network access starts with identifying everything that connects to the network, authenticating and authorizing them, and enforcing robust access policies across the network.

- Identify what clients are being used, how many, where they're connecting from helps IT team keep a tab on required network capacity and potential security threats.
- Authenticate and authorize the devices connecting to the network, applying Zero Trust best practices related to "least access". Define and apply access control policies that follow the user, regardless of where they connect from or what they connect to. This provides an expected user experience. K-12 must adapt to today's evolving devices and their use — whether the device is a smartphone or surveillance camera.





- Enforce automated response via dynamic policy controls and real-time threat remediation that extends to third-party systems. This is the last piece of the puzzle. Being prepared for unusual network behavior at 3 AM requires a unified approach that can block traffic and change the status of a device's connection based on contextual data.

HPE Aruba Networking ClearPass

ClearPass is a trusted NAC solution that provides secure network access based on Zero Trust principal, it offers a bouquet of benefits for K-12

- Secure school network by providing right access to right device (including IoT)
- Take advantage of vast ClearPass ecosystem
- Eliminate the need to replace existing network infrastructure: ClearPass is vendor neutral and works with 150+ other security vendors
- Accelerate digital initiatives with strong security solution, using the same solution many government and enterprises use.
- Eligible under the Pilot Eligible Services List

The solution

HPE Aruba Networking ClearPass comprises of following components:

ClearPass Policy Manager: ClearPass Policy Manager (CPPM) is an on-premises device that provides authentication, authorization and centralized policy definitions that follow the user throughout the network and are applied uniformly across wireless, wired, and VPN connections. If the user changes to an unknown device, or is on an unsecured network, the policy will automatically change authorization privileges. ClearPass supports standards-based 802.1X enforcement and other techniques for secure authentication. It integrates with a wide variety of authentication solutions, enabling the use of multi-factor authentication and the ability to force re-authentication at key points throughout the network. ClearPass Guest feature within CPPM makes it easy and efficient to create temporary network access accounts for any number of guests per day. MAC caching also ensures that guests can easily connect throughout the day without repeatedly entering credentials on the guest portal.

ClearPass Onboard: Leverages the same hardware as CPPM, ClearPass Onboard automates device provisioning for secure BYOD by pushing the device to a branded portal, automates the provisioning of access credentials, and provides security features that keep enterprise traffic separate. It also works with most managed systems.

Client Insights: HPE Aruba Networking Central customers get an AI enabled client profiling solution that provides an ML based profiling of all devices connecting to your network.



K-12 success stories

“We appreciate the granular visibility and enhanced security ClearPass will give us with respect to who and what is connecting to our network. We’ll also have improved control over bandwidth utilization, which is particularly critical to managing guest and Internet traffic effectively.”

- Decatur City Schools

With ClearPass, Roseville City School District provides a safe BYOD environment by managing access rights for each person and device. Teachers and administrators are granted permissions based on the applications and data they need. Students can access their virtual workspaces, and the Internet, but are restricted from other areas of the district’s network. Visitors and other guests have easy access to the Wi-Fi.

Leveraging FCC cybersecurity pilot program for schools and libraries*

The FCC cybersecurity pilot program funding presents an opportunity for schools and libraries to capitalize on the benefits of HPE Aruba Networking ClearPass.

HPE Aruba Networking ClearPass is eligible for the Pilot Program as defined in the Pilot Eligible Services List.

Learn more at

To learn more about K-12 education solutions and HPE Aruba Networking ClearPass please visit: hpe.com/in/en/aruba-clearpass-policy-manager.html and arubanetworks.com/k12

* Based on FCC Cybersecurity Pilot Program Eligible Services List. The FCC and/or USAC has final determination of E-Rate eligibility based on program regulatory compliance requirements.

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