citrix



# Citrix Workspace and Microsoft 365 empower educational institutions to help students achieve more



The rapid transition to remote learning during COVID-19 inspired a burst of technological innovation across K-12, colleges, and universities. It also challenged institutions to reimagine how they serve their educators, students, and staff. As education leaders, faculty, and school districts look ahead to other side of the pandemic, they have a unique opportunity to make critical technology investments that will enhance the educational experience and help students achieve more.

Citrix and Microsoft offer a fully integrated virtualized workspace and collaboration solution that can transform education IT environments and provide the foundation for a flexible, blended approach to learning. Educational institutions can effectively move their resources to their data center or the cloud and help educators reach students wherever they are to unlock their full potential.

### Citrix and Microsoft enable a new era of digital learning

#### Any device, any app, any connection

Whether they're working in the library on a thin client or studying on their laptop at home, today's digitally native students need a mobile workspace that travels wherever they go. With Citrix and Microsoft digital learning resources are available on every device, regardless of the operating system. Citrix Workspace and Citrix Virtual Apps and Desktops service (CVADs) provide unified access to apps like Microsoft Teams, Office apps, and even apps that run on-premises.

#### Secure, simplified logins

Many eLearning solutions require students to log in using separate credentials on different devices and applications, tempting users to take unsecured shortcuts. With Citrix Workspace and CVADs, students don't need to remember different usernames and passwords for access to their Azure Virtual Desktop. Instead, everything is accessible from a single interface using one a single set of credentials.

#### Collaborative learning spaces

Citrix Workspace and CVADs provide administrators, educators, and students with seamless access to collaborative tools in Microsoft 365. Citrix Optimization for Microsoft Teams creates a secure, unified collaboration hub with the performance of a local installation. Educators and students can use Microsoft Teams to have face-to-face conversations, share content and assignments, and use apps together. Citrix HDX ensures flawless voice and video even on low-cost devices.

#### Inclusive tools for learning

Citrix and Microsoft designproducts for usability by people of all abilities. Microsoft 365 provides multiple apps with features like live translations and subtitling. Microsoft Teams includes eye-tracking technology for those unable to use a mouse or touchscreen and live captions for the hard of hearing. And Citrix supports accessibility standards, including Section 508 compliance and WCAG 2.0.

### How educators are re-inventing the learning experience with Citrix and Microsoft



When COVID-19 struck, the University of Cambridge chose Citrix Workspace to provide

work-from-home continuity for 15,000 users. "[In] all the tests against the top three competitors, Citrix offered the best user experience," says Steve Hoensch, Head of Frontline Services at University of Cambridge. "It had the best ability to do calls within Microsoft Teams and Skype, the best video and the best overall user experience."



Crawford Central School District (CCSD)
chose Citrix Workspace, CVADs, and
Microsoft Azure to refresh its aging
infrastructure and meet the demands of th

next generation of students. "We're a small-to-midsize school district here in western Pennsylvania," says Rebecca Gentile, technology director, CCSD. "Don't think that you need to have a big staff or a large budget in order to be able to accomplish this kind of digital transformation and be successful."

### Citrix and Microsoft reimagine the flexible classroom for education



# Provide easier remote learning for everyone

Keeping students engaged and focused on learning outside the classroom is challenging, especially for first timers. Citrix and Microsoft make this transition easy by delivering flexible learning spaces that are easy to access and work on from any device. By running workloads in the Azure, even 3D and graphically intensive apps deliver a great user experience on lower cost thin clients and personal devices.



# Ensure regulatory compliance

Schools and universities collect extensive staff and student data that must be secured to protect privacy. With Citrix and Microsoft, sensitive data isn't stored on endpoint devices that can be compromised, lost, or stolen. Apps and associated data remain in institution-controlled repositories that reside either on-premises or in Microsoft Azure and accessed through Citrix Workspace and CVADs. This level of access control, along with auditing and reporting capabilities enable IT to manage compliance, information governance, and data protection.



# Simplify file sharing and collaboration

Students, faculty, and administrators can be slowed down when they're confused about where important documents are saved. With data file sharing tools built into CVADs and Microsoft 365, files and projects are saved and synced across devices and locations. This makes it easier for students and educators to work on projects, collaborate with classmates and colleagues, share resources, and make important learning connections.



## Enable computer-based assessment

Instead of traveling to unfamiliar computer labs, students can take exams on the same devices they study on. Testing software doesn't need to be installed on devices. Teachers can deliver assessments through Citrix Workspace while running workloads in Microsoft Azure to conserve hardware resources. Students can change from one session to the next seamlessly. IT administrators can also add an additional layer of security by delivering computer-based assessments in a lock-down, containerized secure browser.



# Streamline access to STEM learning

Virtual labs and state-of-the-art learning centers can run workloads in Microsoft Azure to provide students with access to STEM apps and equipment resources from anywhere on any device — even thin clients and low-cost personal devices. Students also have access to secure cloud storage where they can save their compute-intensive student materials and homework.



#### Secure research data

Valuable research data must be protected from cyberthreats. With Citrix and Microsoft, IT can provide access to research by assigning secure digital workspaces that can be used on any available connection without any additional VPN software. Robust zero trust architecture provides end-to-end encryption, secure web browsing, and context aware access policies to protect infrastructure from ransomware and malware. Citrix Analytics uses machine learning to identify suspicious behavior, while Microsoft Security Graph API provides a unified threat intelligence view across hybrid cloud environments.

### Why Citrix and Microsoft

Citrix and Microsoft help educators unlock the full potential of every student by providing powerful tools for learning, creation, and collaboration in a secure and trusted environment. Citrix partners with the top 10 highest ranked educational institutions in the world, including the top 10 highest ranked universities, all U.S. "big ten" universities, and the top 10 largest U.S. school districts. Educational institutions can use this combined expertise to alleviate their most common IT pain points and eliminate difficult roadblocks to delivering top tier digital learning environments.

Learn more:

▶ citrix.com/Microsoft

► citrix.com/solutions/education





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