

This guide covers various deployment options for the Audience Response System, from local network hosting to cloud deployment.



Prerequisites

Before deployment, ensure you have:

- Node.js 18+ installed
- PostgreSQL database (local or cloud)
- Git for version control
- Domain name (for production deployments)



🏠 Local Network Deployment

Perfect for classrooms, offices, or events where you want to keep everything on-premises.

Step 1: Server Setup

```
# Clone the repository
git clone https://github.com/benny2744/ARS-BZ.git
cd ARS-BZ/app
# Install dependencies
yarn install
# Set up environment variables
cp .env.example .env
```

Step 2: Configure Environment

Edit .env file:

```
# Use your machine's IP address for network access
NEXTAUTH_URL="http://192.168.1.100:3000" # Replace with your IP
DATABASE_URL="postgresql://username:password@localhost:5432/ars_db"
NEXTAUTH_SECRET="your-secure-random-secret"
NODE_ENV="production"
```

Step 3: Database Setup

```
# Initialize database
npx prisma migrate deploy
npx prisma db seed
```

Step 4: Build and Start

```
# Build for production
yarn build
# Start the server
yarn start
```

Step 5: Network Configuration

1. Find your IP address:

- Windows: ipconfig

- macOS/Linux: ifconfig or ip addr show

2. Configure firewall:

- Allow port 3000 through your firewall
- On macOS: System Preferences → Security & Privacy → Firewall
- On Windows: Windows Defender Firewall settings
- 3. Share the URL: http://[YOUR-IP]:3000



Cloud Deployment

Vercel (Recommended for Next.js)

1. Prepare your repository:

```
bash
# Ensure your code is committed
git add .
git commit -m "Prepare for deployment"
git push origin main
```

2. Deploy to Vercel:

- Visit vercel.com (https://vercel.com)
- Connect your GitHub repository
- Configure environment variables
- Deploy automatically

3. Environment Variables:

Set these in Vercel dashboard:

```
DATABASE_URL=postgresql://...
NEXTAUTH_URL=https://your-app.vercel.app
NEXTAUTH_SECRET=your-secret
NODE_ENV=production
```

Railway

1. Connect repository:

- Visit railway.app (https://railway.app)
- Connect GitHub repository
- Choose the app directory as root

2. Add PostgreSQL database:

- Add PostgreSQL service in Railway
- Note the connection URL

3. Configure variables:

```
DATABASE_URL=${{Postgres.DATABASE_URL}}
NEXTAUTH_URL=${{RAILWAY_PUBLIC_DOMAIN}}
NEXTAUTH_SECRET=your-secret
```

DigitalOcean App Platform

1. Create new app:

- Connect GitHub repository
- Select Node.js environment
- Set build command: yarn build
- Set run command: yarn start

2. Database setup:

- Create managed PostgreSQL database
- Add connection string to environment

🐳 Docker Deployment

Create a Dockerfile in the app directory:

```
FROM node:18-alpine

WORKDIR /app

# Copy package files
COPY package.json yarn.lock ./

# Install dependencies
RUN yarn install --frozen-lockfile

# Copy source code
COPY . .

# Generate Prisma client
RUN npx prisma generate

# Build application
RUN yarn build

EXPOSE 3000

CMD ["yarn", "start"]
```

Create docker-compose.yml:

```
version: '3.8'
services:
 app:
   build: ./app
   ports:
     - "3000:3000"
    environment:
     - DATABASE_URL=postgresql://ars:password@db:5432/ars_db
      - NEXTAUTH_URL=http://localhost:3000
      - NEXTAUTH_SECRET=your-secret
   depends_on:
      - db
 db:
   image: postgres:14
    environment:
     POSTGRES_DB: ars_db
      POSTGRES_USER: ars
      POSTGRES_PASSWORD: password
      - postgres_data:/var/lib/postgresql/data
volumes:
 postgres_data:
```

Deploy with Docker:

```
docker-compose up -d
```

Environment Configuration

Required Environment Variables

Variable	Description	Example
DATABASE_URL	PostgreSQL connection string	<pre>postgresql://user:pass@host: 5432/db</pre>
NEXTAUTH_URL	Your app's URL	http://localhost:3000
NEXTAUTH_SECRET	Random secret for NextAuth	Generate with openssl rand -base64 32

Optional Variables

Variable	Description	Default
NODE_ENV	Environment mode	development
MAX_FILE_SIZE	Max upload size in bytes	10485760 (10MB)
LOG_LEVEL	Logging level	info

Performance Optimization

Production Settings

1. Enable caching:

```
javascript
// next.config.js
module.exports = {
poweredByHeader: false,
compress: true,
// ... other optimizations
```

2. Database optimization:

- Use connection pooling
- Enable query optimization
- Regular database maintenance

3. **CDN setup** (for static assets):

- Upload images to a CDN
- Configure next.config.js for external images

Security Checklist

Production Security

- [] Use HTTPS in production
- [] Set secure environment variables
- [] Configure CORS appropriately
- [] Enable database SSL
- [] Set up proper firewall rules
- [] Use strong secrets and passwords
- [] Regular security updates
- [] Monitor for suspicious activity

Network Security

- [] Disable unnecessary ports
- [] Use VPN for admin access (if needed)
- [] Configure rate limiting
- [] Enable logging and monitoring
- [] Regular backups

Monitoring & Maintenance

Health Monitoring

Set up monitoring for:

- Application uptime
- Database connection
- File upload functionality

- Memory and CPU usage
- Error rates

Backup Strategy

1. Database backups:

```
bash
    # Daily backup script
pg_dump $DATABASE_URL > backup-$(date +%Y%m%d).sql
```

2. File uploads:

- Backup uploads directory regularly
- Consider cloud storage for uploads

3. Application backups:

- Keep Git history
- Tag releases for rollback capability

ss Troubleshooting

Common Issues

Database Connection Errors:

- Check DATABASE_URL format
- Verify database is running
- Check network connectivity

File Upload Issues:

- Verify uploads directory permissions
- Check disk space
- Review file size limits

Authentication Problems:

- Verify NEXTAUTH_URL matches deployment URL
- Check NEXTAUTH SECRET is set
- Review callback URLs

Logs and Debugging

Enable detailed logging:

```
LOG_LEVEL=debug
NODE_ENV=development # For detailed errors
```

Check logs:

```
# Docker logs
docker-compose logs -f app

# Local logs
yarn dev # Development mode with detailed output
```

Support

For deployment support:

- Check the troubleshooting section
- Review GitHub issues
- Create a new issue with deployment details
- Include environment information and logs

Happy Deploying! 🚀

