

API Controls

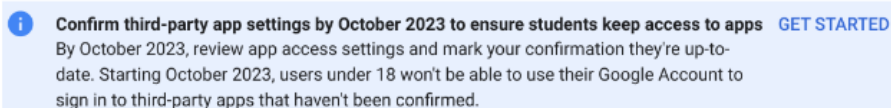
Summary

Hey there, Google Admins! We're on the cusp of significant shifts in **Google's API control settings for users under 18**, set to shake things up this coming October. This is a noteworthy moment, especially for schools that haven't yet fine-tuned their API Control settings. And for those who think they're one step ahead, hold on! A slew of fresh updates and changes have already landed in the admin console, causing ripples of impact.

With the flurry of updates to the API Controls section in the admin console over the past couple of years, it's time to take a breather and review the API controls, nail down best practices, identify necessary actions, and map out the route to get there.

TL;DR

Google is pushing us towards a Trusted List approach for OAuth Apps, which will be implemented in October. Google Admins need to set up the trusted list and confirm settings before then.



Understanding the Updates

Google notified primary admins on June 19th, 2023, announcing new API Controls, changes in behavior for users under 18 regarding their access to third-party apps, and a requirement to review and confirm access settings to third-party apps by Oct. 23rd, 2023.

Takeaway

Google is making domains go to an OAuth App "Trusted List" for under 18 before Oct. 23rd, 2023 or students will lose access to OAuth apps. Read the [full email](#)

Immediate Impact

Previously accessed apps should not be affected until October 23rd. Google has "configured" previously accessed apps from under 18 as limited.

i Note

This is why you are seeing a lot more “configured apps”

Any “new” app can not be accessed by under 18 and the user can “Request” the app.

i Note

This is why you’re seeing requests (from students)

Here’s what you can expect, starting tomorrow:

- **Restricted access to unconfigured apps for users designated under 18:**

Users designated under 18 in [age-based access settings](#) will be required to request access to apps that aren’t already configured with a trusted, limited, or blocked setting in the Admin Console. You’ll be able to review requests and configure settings to grant access. [Learn more](#)

“It’s like Google did the “Stop the bleed” approach for students for you.”

- *Melissa Benson*

API Controls

Overview

When users sign in to third-party apps using the “Sign in with Google” option (single sign-on), you can control how those third-party apps access your organization’s Google data.

API Controls Section:

Security > Access and data controls > API Controls

Manage Third Party Apps:

Security > Access and data controls > API Controls > Manage Third-Party Apps


Best Practices

Students: (Default) Don’t allow users to access any third-party apps

Staff: This needs to be discussed by the school. Be consistent with your other app policies. It’s best to lean towards a more controlled app approval process.


Required Actions

The process boils down to two actions: **Configure** and **Confirm**.



Admins must Configure an OAuth apps trusted list for users under 18

Because Google is setting that main OAuth apps setting we talked about to “Don’t allow users to access any third-party apps”
It will apply starting Oct 23rd.



Admins must Confirm third-party app settings by Oct 23rd to ensure students keep access to apps

“When you confirm, you’ll need to acknowledge parental consent for ongoing use of these apps.”
This is a different requirement than trusting the apps.

Configure

! Important

Configure a trusted list of OAuth apps: This is a significant task as most schools see hundreds and thousands of accessed apps.



1. Go through the configured apps (marked as “limited”) and trust or block them. (remember, Google “configured” previously accessed apps for under 18 as limited)
2. Figure out how to handle the incoming app requests.
3. Look at all of the rest of the accessed apps and create our trusted list for the rest of our users. (this would be addressing the trusted list for over 18)

Ways to “approve” apps

1. You can trust one by one, or a couple by couple by going into your configured or accessed app list from within the admin console. [image below]
2. You could “add an app” and trust.
3. Recommended: You can download the accessed apps list, bulk change access in a sheet, then bulk upload. [image below]

×
2 apps selected
Change access

+ Add a filter

<input type="checkbox"/>	App name	Type
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	 WeVideo ✓ Verified	Web
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	 Project MakeLookBusy	Web

Configured apps
Add app
Download list
Bulk update list

Bulk update list

1
Download CSV file

Download Configured Apps
Download Blank Template

2
Add or edit apps info in CSV file.

Values are required for the **Type**, **ID**, **Org unit**, or **Access** columns. Updates to other columns won't take effect. [Learn more about bulk updates](#)

Example

A	B	C	...	G	H
App name	Type	ID	...	Org unit	Access
Carva	Android	3627u0k5odv...	...	/Sales	Trusted

3
Upload CSV file

Attach CSV File

CANCEL
UPLOAD

💡 Tip

Watch the September Deep Dive for tips

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Confirm


! Important

Confirm setting before October 23rd

- This is the [Guided Stepper](#)
- Think of this as you signing off with “parental/guardian consent”
- [YouTube video](#) of this process.

FAQ

- Is there a maximum of configured apps?
 - Yes, 15,000. We are in talks with Google about this
- Can I unconfigure an app?
 - It does not appear like you can truly “unconfigure” an app. We are talking to Google about this.
- I’m having issues with the iPhone native mail and calendar apps when I’m blocking APIs
 - This is the full App ID for iOS in my console: 450232826690-0rm6bs9d2fps9tifvk2oodh3tasd7vl7.apps.googleusercontent.com.
- Can we disable the ability for students to “Request apps”?
 - No. But it is something we will talk about internally to see if there is a work around.
 - We asked Google and it’s “in the works”.
- Can staff request apps like students?
 - No. Only under 18 can request. We are asking Google. Most likely a temp thing. (hopefully)
- Where does that “request” go (when students request access to an app)?
 - Admin Console Dashboard > App access control card
 - Security > API Controls > App Access Control > Manage Third-Party App Access. Then it’s the middle box across the top that says “Apps pending review”.
- Can we see “who” requested the app? Can we get alerted?
 - Under Reporting > Audit and investigation > OAuth log events. Then add the condition “Event is Request”.
 - Yes, by creating a Custom Rule: With the previous navigation then click on “Create activity rule” or “Reporting Rule” (depending on your edition). It will walk you through creating a rule (alert) where you can have it get sent to the Alert Center and email people.
- Can you explain the API Block-Exempt option when trusting an app?
 - This is for people with Standard or Plus and use Context Aware Access.
 - Selected apps maintain API access to Google Workspace services even when those services have Context-Aware Access policies that apply to

API access. Resources: When adding an app, Assign Context-Aware access levels to apps, Use Cases. 

- Q & As from the after party
 - Slide 1, Slide 2, Slide 3

Resources

Public Resources

- CDW Amplified Help Article: Manage access to unconfigured third-party apps
- Google Support Page: Manage access to unconfigured third-party apps for users designated as under 18
- Google Support Page: Control which third-party & internal apps access Google Workspace data
- Official Google YouTube Video: Google Workspace for Education Admin Console: How to review third party app access requests

Collaborative Member Resources

September 14th Deep Dive

- Collaborative Deep Dive - Back to School: Unpacking the Upcoming API Control Changes
- Slide Deck | Timestamps & Summary | Recording
- Q & A from the live stream