

FAQs

AKAMAI ACCELERATED NETWORK PARTNER (AANP) PROGRAM



Introduction

The Akamai Accelerated Network Partner (AANP) program plays a critical role in Akamai's goal of delivering content from points of presence as close to end users as possible. In this mutually beneficial arrangement, partners agree to colocate Akamai servers within their own networks. AANP partners provide rack space, power, IP address space, and occasional "hands and eyes" support for the Akamai servers at no cost to Akamai. In return, Akamai provides servers and the service which enables the partner's subscribers to receive popular web content delivered at exceptional speeds from within their network—at no cost to the partner. The servers (which are typically deployed in "clusters") and content delivery network (CDN) capacity are managed by Akamai as part of the Akamai Intelligent Platform™. If you are interested in becoming an AANP, please fill out and submit the AANP Inquiry form found on our [website](#).

1. What changes do I need to make to my infrastructure to accommodate the Akamai deployment?

No changes are needed to your DNS or other internal systems to accommodate the Akamai cluster. Please ensure that the cluster is deployed outside your firewall and treated like any other web server on the Internet. There should be no filtering between the Akamai cluster and the Internet.

2. How does Akamai know which of my clients to serve from my on-net deployment?

During the deployment process, Akamai will establish a BGP session with you. This session is not used for routing purposes; it is simply a way for us to build an "allow list" of prefixes that can get content from the cluster.

3. How do I ensure that only my clients receive content from the Akamai cluster?

We serve traffic based on the DNS IP of the client making the request (with an exception for users of some third-party DNS providers – see below). If users outside your network are using your DNS IPs for resolution, they will be served content from your local cache. To prevent this, you should apply an access control list (ACL) on your nameservers that explicitly excludes lookups from off-net IPs.

4. What if my clients are using a third-party DNS such as Google DNS or OpenDNS?

Akamai has worked with both Google DNS and OpenDNS to implement the EDNS0 Client Subnet (ECS) extensions, and as such, clients using those open resolvers will be mapped by the end user's IP and not the IP of the recursive resolver. No action is required on the part of the network operator to enable this.

5. Why should I peer with Akamai when I already have an on-net cluster?

Akamai will attempt to serve as much of our customer content as possible from the local deployment, however no single cluster can accommodate all content. Some content cannot be sourced locally due to regulatory reasons, contractual obligation, or specific hardware requirements for certain types of content. We recommend that in addition to an on-net cluster, you also peer with us over the public fabric in order to receive a more comprehensive mix of Akamai traffic.

6. As a network operator, what other opportunities are available to partner with Akamai?

In addition to the AANP program, Akamai maintains a peering presence at numerous Internet exchange points (IXPs) and has an open peering policy. We openly peer with any network at IXP locations where we are mutually present and consider private interconnection on a case-by-case basis. Please [contact us](#) if you're interested in peering relationships with Akamai.

For network operators looking to deliver their own content faster and more cost-effectively, Akamai's Aura managed CDN (MCDN) and licensed CDN (LCDN) are excellent solutions already deployed by leading network service providers around the globe. Visit <https://www.akamai.com/us/en/solutions/products/network-operator/> or click [here](#) to learn more about Aura MCDN and LCDN.



As the global leader in Content Delivery Network ([CDN](#)) services, Akamai makes the Internet fast, reliable and secure for its customers. The company's advanced web performance, mobile performance, cloud security and media delivery solutions are revolutionizing how businesses optimize consumer, enterprise and entertainment experiences for any device, anywhere. To learn how Akamai solutions and its team of Internet experts are helping businesses move faster forward, please visit www.akamai.com or blogs.akamai.com, and follow @Akamai on [Twitter](#).

Akamai is headquartered in Cambridge, Massachusetts in the United States with operations in more than 57 offices around the world. Our services and renowned customer care are designed to enable businesses to provide an unparalleled Internet experience for their customers worldwide. Addresses, phone numbers, and contact information for all locations are listed on www.akamai.com/locations.
