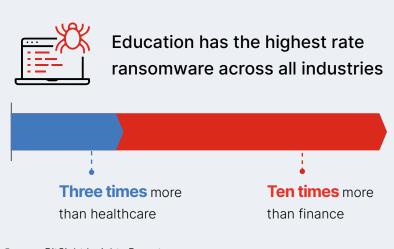


## FORTINET INDUSTRY BRIEF

## Fortinet Zero Trust Access: Comprehensive visibility and control of users and devices on or off the network



Source: BitSight Insights Report

Establishing an active Zero Trust security model doesn't have to be a long, expensive, and frustrating process. Even though higher education Institutions tend to have a hugely diverse set of users and uses of their networks, Fortinet has the expertise and technology to take you through the journey to a more secure and controllable network environment. From gaining visibility into what's connected to your network, to monitoring and controlling access, to remediation of problems, to multi-factor authentication, Fortinet can be your Zero Trust partner every step of the way.

## YOU NEED SAFE AND SUSTAINED OPERATIONS

From the dorm WiFi to the million dollar piece of connected science equipment; from accepting a credit card at the dining hall, to connecting researchers around the globe; there is a myriad of ways an institution uses its network to support its operations. And every one of the IT or data resources needs to be discovered and protected to allow the institution and all who work in it to function.

## SECURITY CHALLENGES OF HIGHER EDUCATION



**Teaching Resource Uptime** DDoS attacks can disrupt resources for teaching, research, and operations.



## **Personal Data**

Criminal gangs want to profit from stolen medical, financial, and professional information of students, faculty, and staff.



#### **Intellectual Property**

Bad actors, competitors, and nation states target valuable research data and intellectual property.



#### **National Security**

Government research and policy can be stolen by nation states and faculty can be spied on.

## **SECURING HIGHER EDUCATION HAS ITS CHALLENGES:**



## **Bring Your Own Device**

The prevalence of connected devices creates the need for a Zero Trust network.



## Complex Compliance Requirements

Universities must meet changing cyber hygiene guidelines in order to conduct research and preserve funding streams including CMMC, FERPA, COPPA, HIPAA, and GLBA.



### Valuable Intellectual Property

With universities playing a huge role in R&D, sensitive research data must be protected at all costs.

## IN ADDITION, HIGHER EDUCATION FACES SOME BIG STRUCTURAL CHANGES:

- **Maintaining the College Experience.** With hybrid learning models becoming the norm, you have to protect and enhance the college experience. **Virtual learning** must deliver quality education whilst remaining engaging to students and faculty alike.
- **Financial Security.** With domestic and foreign student numbers declining and market pressure on tuition, **higher education institutions** need to find new revenue streams and safeguard their endowments.
- **Faculty and Staff Burnout.** Rapidly changing teaching methods and uncertainty about the future are causing stress for **higher education professionals**. You must find ways to attract new talent and retain their valuable faculty.

## WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU DO NOT ACT:



### Personal harm to students, faculty, and staff

Improperly secured networks can be breached with the loss of social security numbers as well as financial or medical information. Breach recovery costs are also increasing.



### Loss of IP and research grants

An unsecured research network can leak valuable IP to nation states and bad actors and negatively affect research funding.



## Loss of confidence in the institution

With pressure on the budgets and revenues, higher education institutions cannot be seen as unreliable.

## THE FORTINET SOLUTION

Fortinet offers the industry's highest performing cybersecurity platform. It can protect all the infrastructure that runs the institution and everything that runs on the institution's networks. From students' devices to the institution's OT systems and from financial databases to highly specialized connected equipment, Fortinet offers security wherever you need it.

# We have a three-step approach to creating a Zero Trust Access Solution that meets the needs of higher education institutions:



#### **Provide Network Visibility**

Fortinet can provide higher education clients with a comprehensive network assessment to discover all devices on the network, which is leveraged to create the Zero Trust strategy that enables them to control access.



#### **Suggest Remediation**

Fortinet can recommend the steps the client needs to see and control users, their roles, and the devices they are connecting to the information resources.



#### **Become Your Security Partner**

Fortinet will provide the equipment, knowledge, and manpower to create a comprehensive Zero Trust security environment from RFP, design, and deployment through the entire lifecycle.

## CONCLUSION

The Fortinet Zero Trust Access Solution protects all the infrastructure that runs the institution, all connected devices, and everything that serves the students, faculty, and staff. We're the industry's highest performing cybersecurity platform, providing broad, integrated, and automated protection everywhere you need it.

