

Cisco Identity Services Engine

Ordering Guide

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1. Introduction

Purpose: This document describes the packaging structure and ordering information for the Cisco® Identity Services Engine (ISE).

Audience: This guide is for Cisco sales, partners, distributors, and customers.

Scope: This ordering guide covers the following products:

- Cisco ISE appliances
- Cisco ISE licenses

Find more detailed information on Cisco ISE [here](#).

2. Cisco Identity Services Engine

The functional components required for Cisco ISE deployments include appliances as well as licenses. The Cisco ISE licenses are designed to offer choices that better align with common enterprise use cases, minimize the number of orderable licenses, and right-size service adoption to increase value.

3. Cisco ISE appliances

Cisco ISE supports both physical and virtual appliances. You can find more details on Cisco ISE appliances [here](#).

Cisco ISE virtual appliances are supported VMware ESXi 5.x and 6.x, KVM on Red Hat 7.x, and Microsoft Hyper-V on Microsoft Windows Server 2012R2 and later. Virtual appliances should be run on hardware that equals or exceeds the configurations of the physical platforms listed in the Cisco ISE data sheet. Cisco ISE Policy Service Node (PSN) persona requires the virtual target to have at least 16 GB of memory and at least 200 GB of hard drive space available.

3.1 Appliance ordering information

Table 1 lists ordering information for the Cisco Secure Network Servers as well as Cisco ISE virtual appliances.

For both physical and virtual appliances, make sure to select the appropriate support contract desired for each appliance: Cisco Smart Net Total Care® service for physical appliances and Software Support Service (SWSS) for virtual appliances. Please note that ISE appliances always ship with the latest version of software but the software version can be changed manually. This would be in the form of a fresh installation. Please refer to the release notes and administrator guide of the ISE release you plan to install.

Table 1. Product ordering information

Server Part Number	Product Description	Comments
SNS-3515-K9	Small Secure Network Server for ISE Applications	Customer must choose software option
SNS-3595-K9	Large Secure Server for ISE Applications	Customer must choose software option
SNS-3615-K9	Small Secure Network Server for ISE Applications	Customer must choose software option
SNS-3655-K9	Medium Secure Network Server for ISE Applications	Customer must choose software option
SNS-3695-K9	Large Secure Network Server for ISE Applications	Customer must choose software option
R-ISE-VMS-K9=	Cisco ISE Virtual Machine Small	At least 12 CPU and 16 GB RAM
R-ISE-VMM-K9=	Cisco ISE Virtual Machine Medium	At least 16 CPU and 64 GB RAM
R-ISE-VML-K9=	Cisco ISE Virtual Machine Large	At least 16 CPU and 256 GB RAM

A deployment can use a higher level license and still be compliant. For example, you may choose to configure your ISE node as a small VM and have installed a medium VM license.

Table 2 lists the Secure Network Server component spares that can be used as Field-Replaceable Units (FRUs).

Table 2. Spare components for the Cisco Secure Network Server

Secure Network Server	Component Part Number	Component Description
3515/3595	UCS-HD600G10K12G	600-GB 12-Gb SAS 10K RPM SFF hard disk; hot pluggable; drive sled mounted
3615/3655/3695	UCS-HD600G10K12N	600-GB 12-Gb SAS 10K RPM SFF hard disk; hot pluggable; drive sled mounted
3515/3595/3615/3655/3695	UCSC-PSU1-770W=	770W power supply
3515/3595/3615/3655/3695	N20-BKVM=	KVM cable
3515/3595/3615/3655/3695	UCSC-RAILB-M4=	Rail kit

4. Cisco ISE licenses

Below is a list of ISE licenses offered.

Table 3. Cisco ISE licenses

Cisco ISE License Package	Focus	Perpetual or Subscription (Terms Available)	Notes
Evaluation	Limited use of Cisco ISE product for presales customer trials/evaluations	Temporary (90 days)	Full Cisco ISE functionality (Device Admin, Base, Plus and Apex) is provided for 100 sessions. See license details below. Included in the Cisco ISE software
Device Administration	Enables Device Administration/TACACS+ support for networking devices	Perpetual	Needs a minimum of 100 Base licenses
Base	Provides highly secure endpoint and user access	Perpetual	-
Plus	Provides context about sessions for more detailed access policies	Subscription (1, 3, or 5 years)	Does not include Base services; Base licenses are required to install Plus licenses
Apex	Provides compliance details about sessions for more detailed access policies	Subscription (1, 3, or 5 years)	Does not include Base or Plus services; Base licenses are required to install Apex licenses. Please note that Cisco AnyConnect® Apex user licenses are required in addition to Cisco ISE Apex licenses when making use of Cisco AnyConnect posture services across wired, wireless, and VPN

All licenses are available as traditional PAK-based licenses and [can be converted to](#) Smart licenses.

Understanding Cisco ISE service and license relationships is important for license ordering and deployment.

Table 4 provides a cross-reference for Cisco ISE features and services and the licenses where these features and services are found.

Table 4. Cisco ISE services, licenses, and software

Cisco ISE Feature or Service	License			
	Base	Device Admin	Plus	Apex
Basic RADIUS authentication, authorization, and accounting, including 802.1x, MAC Authentication Bypass	Yes	No	No	No
Web authentication (local, central, device registration)	Yes	No	No	No
MACsec (all)	Yes	No	No	No
SSO, SAML, ODBC-based authentication	Yes	No	No	No

Cisco ISE Feature or Service	License			
	Base	Device Admin	Plus	Apex
Guest portal and sponsor services	Yes	No	No	No
Representational state transfer (monitoring) APIs	Yes	No	No	No
External RESTful services (CRUD)-capable APIs	Yes	No	No	No
Security group tagging (Cisco TrustSec® SGT)	Yes	No	No	No
PassiveID (Cisco Subscribers)	Yes	No	No	No
PassiveID (Non Cisco Subscribers)	No	No	Yes	No
Profiling	No	No	Yes	No
Profiler feed service	No	No	Yes	No
Device registration (My Devices portal) and provisioning for Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) with built-in Certificate Authority (CA)	No	No	Yes	No
Context sharing pxGrid	No	No	Yes	No
Endpoint Protection Services (EPS)	No	No	Yes	No
Cisco TrustSec and ACI integration	No	No	Yes	No
Location-based integration using Cisco Connected Mobile Experiences (CMX) or Cisco Mobility Services Engine (MSE)	No	No	Yes	No
Rapid Threat Containment (RTC) (using Adaptive Network Control and pxGrid)	No	No	Yes	No
Posture (endpoint compliance and remediation)	No	No	No	Yes
Enterprise Mobility Management and Mobile Device Management (EMM and MDM) integration	No	No	No	Yes
Threat Centric NAC	No	No	No	Yes
Cisco AnyConnect Unified Agent (requires Cisco AnyConnect Apex license; see "Ordering information" section)	No	No	No	Yes
Wired access control	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Device Administration (TACACS+)	No	Yes	No	No

For deployments looking to use Cisco AnyConnect® technology for posture across wired, wireless, and VPN, Cisco AnyConnect Apex licenses should be ordered in addition to Cisco ISE Base, Plus, and Apex licenses. See the "Ordering information" section for more details.

4.1 License consumption

The consumption of Cisco ISE licenses depends on sessions and the conditions related to network sessions. Cisco ISE licenses are not permanently assigned to an endpoint, so they can be continually consumed and released. Cisco ISE uses RADIUS accounting "start" and "stop" messages to determine when network sessions begin and end (see Table 5). There are a number of Cisco ISE features that do not result in license consumption recorded in the ISE user interface. These are also listed for completeness (see Table 6).

Table 5. Relationships between services and license consumption

Cisco ISE Service	Cisco ISE License	When the License Is Consumed	When the License Is Released
Authentication (RADIUS/AAA)	Base	A Base license is consumed when an endpoint establishes an active network session	The session ends
Authentication (RADIUS/AAA)	Mobility	A Mobility license is consumed when a wireless or VPN endpoint establishes an active network session	The session ends
Authentication (RADIUS/AAA)	Mobility Upgrade	A Mobility Upgrade license is consumed when a wired endpoint establishes an active network session	The session ends

Cisco ISE Service	Cisco ISE License	When the License Is Consumed	When the License Is Released
Profiling	Plus	A Plus license is consumed when an endpoint with an active session uses profiling classification in an authorization policy	The session ends
BYOD client provisioning and enablement	Plus	A Plus license is consumed when an endpoint with an active session uses its registration status in an authorization policy	The session ends
MDM (partner) checks	Apex	An Apex license is consumed when an endpoint uses an MDM attribute in an authorization policy	The session ends
Threat Centric NAC	Apex	An Apex license is consumed when an endpoint uses or triggers threat based information or action as part of the authorization policy	The session ends
Posture	Apex	An Apex license is consumed when an endpoint with an active session receives an authorization based on a posture status other than "Not applicable" (for example, Compliant, Not compliant, Pending, or Unknown)	The session ends or the endpoint reauthenticates to a session that does not require posture

Table 6 shows the subset of Cisco ISE features that do not result in license consumption recorded in the ISE user interface.

Table 6. Cisco licensed features not involving consumption

Cisco ISE Service	Description	Associated License
Security group tags (SGTs)	Use of SGTs as part of authorization policy	Service is enabled with a valid Base license
Profiler feed service	Dynamic downloading of endpoint classification rules	Service is enabled with a valid Plus license
Context sharing	User and endpoint contextual attribute (who, what, where, when, etc.) data exchange between Cisco ISE and third-party system through pxGrid	Service is enabled with a valid Plus license. Requires a 1:1 Plus to Base license sessions. See table 7 for more details
My Devices portal and NSP	Self-service web portal for users to add and manage their sessions with automatic Network Supplicant Provisioning (NSP)	Service is enabled with a valid Plus license
Endpoint Protection Services	APIs for delivering dynamic network controls of active network sessions	Service is enabled with a valid Plus license
Cisco AnyConnect Unified Agent	Use of Cisco AnyConnect for posture services across wired, wireless, and VPN	Service is enabled with a valid Cisco ISE Apex license and Cisco AnyConnect Apex licenses. Please note that Cisco AnyConnect Apex licenses are needed for every unique user that will make use of Cisco AnyConnect services (posture, VPN, etc.). This includes standalone nodes (e.g. sensors) or multiuser shared computing platforms
PassiveID	Gathering, collating, and caching authentication data (username, IP address and MAC) from other servers in the data center and distributing the authentication data to subscribing systems through pxGrid	Cisco Only Subscribers: Service is enabled with a valid Base license Non Cisco Subscribers: Service is enabled with a valid Plus license. Requires a 1:1 Plus to Base license sessions
Device Administration (TACACS+)	Support for IT enterprise administrators accessing switches, wireless controller, routers, etc., to comply with device administration policies defined in ISE before any configuration changes can occur	Service is enabled with a valid Device Administration license

The My Devices portal is enabled when a Plus license is installed and by itself does NOT consume any licenses. When a device registered through My Devices Portal connects to the network, a Plus license is consumed.

Advanced Cisco TrustSec and ACI integration, multiple matrixes, and Rapid Threat Containment require 1:1 Plus-to-Base license sessions.

Table 7. Context exchange licensing requirements

Authentication Mechanism	Context Shared With	License Requirement
Cisco ISE	Cisco platforms	Plus 1:1 Base
Cisco ISE	Third-party platforms	Plus 1:1 Base
Non-ISE Authentication (e.g., AD)	Cisco platforms	Base
Non-ISE Authentication (e.g., AD)	Third-party platforms	Plus 1:1 Base

4.2 License enforcement

Starting with version 2.2, ISE will enforce licenses when they are out of compliance for 45 days out of 60 consecutive days. A license is out of compliance when (a) term licenses have expired; or (b) more sessions are authorized to establish network sessions or use services than are entitled.

For term licenses, alerts will be provided 30 days prior to expiry on a daily basis to the administrator. When the term licenses expire, they are considered to be out of compliance. ISE will provide a grace period of 45 consecutive days, after which enforcement will begin.

When 25 percent more sessions are authorized than are entitled by the license, the license is considered out of compliance (the 25 percent overage is provided to account for a temporary burst). If the license is out of compliance for 45 consecutive days, enforcement will kick in.

Alerts will be provided every day that a license is out of compliance. When enforcement kicks in, there will be no impact to end users. However, visibility and management of the features associated with an out-of-compliance license will be affected.

Enforcement will be for Plus and Apex licenses. These enforcement actions and impacts on licenses may change in the future.

Note: The term of a Cisco ISE subscription license (Plus, Apex, Mobility, Mobility Upgrade) begins when the PAK is dispatched; this generally occurs 24 hours after the sales order is processed.

5. Ordering information

All Cisco ISE licenses are orderable in the Cisco Commerce Workspace (CCW) and are listed on the Global Price List (GPL).

Cisco ISE endpoint session-based licenses can be ordered in any quantity starting with 100 sessions.

Subscription licenses can be ordered with 1-, 3-, or 5-year terms. Please note that support contracts on all the Cisco ISE appliances (physical or virtual) in a deployment are a prerequisite to purchasing and using ISE term-based licenses.

By default, subscription licenses begin immediately and are for 3 years. The subscription licenses can also be ordered with specific start and end dates. The start date can be up to 60 days out from the current date. The term can be between 12 and 60 months, allowing the licenses to be co-terminated.

To order a Cisco ISE Device Administration perpetual license, select the ISE Device Administration license as separate optional add-on license. Please note that one ISE Device Administration license is needed per ISE node.

When selecting Cisco ISE Apex licenses with the intent of using AnyConnect for posture, please add Cisco AnyConnect Apex licenses. The Cisco AnyConnect Apex licenses have to be ordered as a separate line item with a count equal to the total number of possible users that will make use of Cisco AnyConnect services within the Cisco ISE deployment. Please note that Cisco AnyConnect Plus and Apex licenses will work with Cisco ISE Base, Plus, or Apex for basic VPN authentication. If endpoint contextual data collection with Cisco ISE is required in addition to basic VPN authentication, then Cisco AnyConnect Plus and Cisco ISE Plus licenses have to be ordered. If endpoint posture and consistent access policy enforcement across wired and wireless is needed in addition to basic VPN authentication, then Cisco AnyConnect Apex and Cisco ISE Apex have to be ordered.

The number of Cisco AnyConnect licenses needed is based on all the possible unique users that would use any Cisco AnyConnect service. The exact number of Cisco AnyConnect Plus or Apex licenses should be based on the total number of unique users that require the specific services associated with each license type. Please see the Cisco [AnyConnect Ordering Guide](#) for additional information regarding AnyConnect licenses. Similar to Cisco ISE subscription licenses, a SWSS service contract is included with Cisco AnyConnect Apex licenses for the duration of the subscription term.

To order Cisco AnyConnect Plus or Apex licenses from a Cisco partner, please refer to their Cisco AnyConnect specific SKU structures for Plus license (AC-PLS...) and Apex license (AC-APX...).

5.1 Cisco ISE Device Administration license

A Cisco ISE Device Administration license is an optional add-on license that allows ISE to support Device Administration (TACACS+) for managing administrative access to network devices. Please note that at least 100 ISE Base session licenses are needed in the deployment prior to adding an ISE Device Administration license. One ISE Device Administration license is required per Policy Service Node that operates on Device Administration transactions.

Table 8. Cisco ISE Device Administration license

Part Number (SKU)	Description
L-ISE-TACACS-ND=	Cisco ISE Device Admin Node License

5.2 Cisco ISE Base licenses

A Cisco ISE Base license is required in every Cisco ISE deployment. Technical support for Cisco ISE Base license functionality is covered by the Cisco ISE appliances support contract. The Cisco ISE Base license options are listed in Table 9. Start by choosing L-ISE-BSE-PLIC=. From here choose one of the following SKUs that fits your quantity requirement.

Table 9. Cisco ISE Base licenses

Part Number (SKU)	Description
L-ISE-BSE-P1	Cisco ISE Base License - Sessions 100 to 249
L-ISE-BSE-P2	Cisco ISE Base License - Sessions 250 to 499
L-ISE-BSE-P3	Cisco ISE Base License - Sessions 500 to 999
L-ISE-BSE-P4	Cisco ISE Base License - Sessions 1000 to 2499
L-ISE-BSE-P5	Cisco ISE Base License - Sessions 2500 to 4999
L-ISE-BSE-P6	Cisco ISE Base License - Sessions 5000 to 9999
L-ISE-BSE-P7	Cisco ISE Base License - Sessions 10000 to 24999
L-ISE-BSE-P8	Cisco ISE Base License - Sessions 25000 to 49999

Part Number (SKU)	Description
L-ISE-BSE-P9	Cisco ISE Base License - Sessions 50000 to 99999
L-ISE-BSE-P10	Cisco ISE Base License - Sessions 100000 to 249999
L-ISE-BSE-P11	Cisco ISE Base License - Sessions 250000 and above

5.3 Cisco ISE Plus licenses

Cisco ISE Plus licenses are term-based licenses that are added on top of Cisco ISE Base licenses and cannot exceed the number of Base sessions. ISE Plus licenses can also be deployed with ISE Apex licenses. The Cisco ISE Plus license options are listed in the tables below. Start by choosing L-ISE-PLS-LIC= and click on Select Service. From here enter the sessions count to pick the subscription SKU that fits your quantity and duration requirement.

Table 10. Cisco ISE Plus 5-year subscription licenses

Term Subscription	Description
L-ISE-PLS-5Y-S1	Cisco ISE Plus License, 5Y, 100 - 249 Sessions
L-ISE-PLS-5Y-S2	Cisco ISE Plus License, 5Y, 250 - 499 Sessions
L-ISE-PLS-5Y-S3	Cisco ISE Plus License, 5Y, 500 - 999 Sessions
L-ISE-PLS-5Y-S4	Cisco ISE Plus License, 5Y, 1000 - 2499 Sessions
L-ISE-PLS-5Y-S5	Cisco ISE Plus License, 5Y, 2500 - 4999 Sessions
L-ISE-PLS-5Y-S6	Cisco ISE Plus License, 5Y, 5000 - 9999 Sessions
L-ISE-PLS-5Y-S7	Cisco ISE Plus License, 5Y, 10000 - 24999 Sessions
L-ISE-PLS-5Y-S8	Cisco ISE Plus License, 5Y, 25000 - 49999 Sessions
L-ISE-PLS-5Y-S9	Cisco ISE Plus License, 5Y, 50000 - 99999 Sessions
L-ISE-PLS-5Y-S10	Cisco ISE Plus License, 5Y, 100000 - 249999 Sessions
L-ISE-PLS-5Y-S11	Cisco ISE Plus License, 5Y, 250000+ Sessions

Table 11. Cisco ISE Plus 3-year subscription licenses

Term Subscription	Description
L-ISE-PLS-3Y-S1	Cisco ISE Plus License, 3Y, 100 - 249 Sessions
L-ISE-PLS-3Y-S2	Cisco ISE Plus License, 3Y, 250 - 499 Sessions
L-ISE-PLS-3Y-S3	Cisco ISE Plus License, 3Y, 500 - 999 Sessions
L-ISE-PLS-3Y-S4	Cisco ISE Plus License, 3Y, 1000 - 2499 Sessions
L-ISE-PLS-3Y-S5	Cisco ISE Plus License, 3Y, 2500 - 4999 Sessions
L-ISE-PLS-3Y-S6	Cisco ISE Plus License, 3Y, 5000 - 9999 Sessions
L-ISE-PLS-3Y-S7	Cisco ISE Plus License, 3Y, 10000 - 24999 Sessions
L-ISE-PLS-3Y-S8	Cisco ISE Plus License, 3Y, 25000 - 49999 Sessions
L-ISE-PLS-3Y-S9	Cisco ISE Plus License, 3Y, 50000 - 99999 Sessions
L-ISE-PLS-3Y-S10	Cisco ISE Plus License, 3Y, 100000 - 249999 Sessions
L-ISE-PLS-3Y-S11	Cisco ISE Plus License, 3Y, 250000+ Sessions

Table 12. Cisco ISE Plus 1-Year subscription licenses

Term Subscription	Description
L-ISE-PLS-1Y-S1	Cisco ISE Plus License, 1Y, 100 - 249 Sessions
L-ISE-PLS-1Y-S2	Cisco ISE Plus License, 1Y, 250 - 499 Sessions
L-ISE-PLS-1Y-S3	Cisco ISE Plus License, 1Y, 500 - 999 Sessions

Term Subscription	Description
L-ISE-PLS-1Y-S4	Cisco ISE Plus License, 1Y, 1000 - 2499 Sessions
L-ISE-PLS-1Y-S5	Cisco ISE Plus License, 1Y, 2500 - 4999 Sessions
L-ISE-PLS-1Y-S6	Cisco ISE Plus License, 1Y, 5000 - 9999 Sessions
L-ISE-PLS-1Y-S7	Cisco ISE Plus License, 1Y, 10000 - 24999 Sessions
L-ISE-PLS-1Y-S8	Cisco ISE Plus License, 1Y, 25000 - 49999 Sessions
L-ISE-PLS-1Y-S9	Cisco ISE Plus License, 1Y, 50000 - 99999 Sessions
L-ISE-PLS-1Y-S10	Cisco ISE Plus License, 1Y, 100000 - 249999 Sessions
L-ISE-PLS-1Y-S11	Cisco ISE Plus License, 1Y, 250000+ Sessions

5.4 Cisco ISE Apex licenses

Cisco ISE Apex licenses are term-based licenses that are added on top of Cisco ISE Base licenses and cannot exceed the number of Base sessions. ISE Apex licenses can also be deployed with ISE Plus licenses. The Cisco ISE Apex license options are listed in the tables below. Start by choosing L-ISE-APX-LIC= and click on Select Service. From here enter the sessions count to pick the subscription SKU that fits your quantity and duration requirement.

Table 13. Cisco ISE Apex 5-year subscription licenses

Term Subscription	Description
L-ISE-APX-5Y-S1	Cisco ISE Apex License, 5Y, 100 - 249 Sessions
L-ISE-APX-5Y-S2	Cisco ISE Apex License, 5Y, 250 - 499 Sessions
L-ISE-APX-5Y-S3	Cisco ISE Apex License, 5Y, 500 - 999 Sessions
L-ISE-APX-5Y-S4	Cisco ISE Apex License, 5Y, 1000 - 2499 Sessions
L-ISE-APX-5Y-S5	Cisco ISE Apex License, 5Y, 2500 - 4999 Sessions
L-ISE-APX-5Y-S6	Cisco ISE Apex License, 5Y, 5000 - 9999 Sessions
L-ISE-APX-5Y-S7	Cisco ISE Apex License, 5Y, 10000 - 24999 Sessions
L-ISE-APX-5Y-S8	Cisco ISE Apex License, 5Y, 25000 - 49999 Sessions
L-ISE-APX-5Y-S9	Cisco ISE Apex License, 5Y, 50000 - 99999 Sessions
L-ISE-APX-5Y-S10	Cisco ISE Apex License, 5Y, 100000 - 249999 Sessions
L-ISE-APX-5Y-S11	Cisco ISE Apex License, 5Y, 250000+ Sessions

Table 14. Cisco ISE Apex 3-year subscription licenses

Term Subscription	Description
L-ISE-APX-3Y-S1	Cisco ISE Apex License, 3Y, 100 - 249 Sessions
L-ISE-APX-3Y-S2	Cisco ISE Apex License, 3Y, 250 - 499 Sessions
L-ISE-APX-3Y-S3	Cisco ISE Apex License, 3Y, 500 - 999 Sessions
L-ISE-APX-3Y-S4	Cisco ISE Apex License, 3Y, 1000 - 2499 Sessions
L-ISE-APX-3Y-S5	Cisco ISE Apex License, 3Y, 2500 - 4999 Sessions
L-ISE-APX-3Y-S6	Cisco ISE Apex License, 3Y, 5000 - 9999 Sessions
L-ISE-APX-3Y-S7	Cisco ISE Apex License, 3Y, 10000 - 24999 Sessions
L-ISE-APX-3Y-S8	Cisco ISE Apex License, 3Y, 25000 - 49999 Sessions
L-ISE-APX-3Y-S9	Cisco ISE Apex License, 3Y, 50000 - 99999 Sessions
L-ISE-APX-3Y-S10	Cisco ISE Apex License, 3Y, 100000 - 249999 Sessions
L-ISE-APX-3Y-S11	Cisco ISE Apex License, 3Y, 250000+ Sessions

Table 15. Cisco ISE Apex 1-year subscription licenses

Term Subscription	Description
L-ISE-APX-1Y-S1	Cisco ISE Apex License, 1Y, 100 - 249 Sessions
L-ISE-APX-1Y-S2	Cisco ISE Apex License, 1Y, 250 - 499 Sessions
L-ISE-APX-1Y-S3	Cisco ISE Apex License, 1Y, 500 - 999 Sessions
L-ISE-APX-1Y-S4	Cisco ISE Apex License, 1Y, 1000 - 2499 Sessions
L-ISE-APX-1Y-S5	Cisco ISE Apex License, 1Y, 2500 - 4999 Sessions
L-ISE-APX-1Y-S6	Cisco ISE Apex License, 1Y, 5000 - 9999 Sessions
L-ISE-APX-1Y-S7	Cisco ISE Apex License, 1Y, 10000 - 24999 Sessions
L-ISE-APX-1Y-S8	Cisco ISE Apex License, 1Y, 25000 - 49999 Sessions
L-ISE-APX-1Y-S9	Cisco ISE Apex License, 1Y, 50000 - 99999 Sessions
L-ISE-APX-1Y-S10	Cisco ISE Apex License, 1Y, 100000 - 249999 Sessions
L-ISE-APX-1Y-S11	Cisco ISE Apex License, 1Y, 250000+ Sessions

5.5 Cisco ISE IPsec license

The Cisco ISE IPsec licenses support VPN communication between Cisco ISE Policy Services Nodes (PSNs) and Cisco Network Access Devices (NADs). One Cisco ISE IPsec license is required for every Policy Services Node used for IPsec VPN communication to the NADs. There is a maximum of 150 IPsec tunnels per Policy Services Node.

Table 16. Cisco ISE IPsec licenses

Part Number (SKU)	Description
L-ISE-IPSEC	Cisco Identity Services Engine IPsec License

6. Frequently Asked Questions

- Q.** What are the perpetual vs subscription feature offers within ISE?
- A.** The perpetual license based features in ISE are Base and Device Admin as well as the ISE virtual machine licenses. The subscription license based features in ISE are Plus and Apex.
- Q.** We purchased VM previously and it had no PAK or license key associated. We are planning to upgrade to 2.4 now. What do I need?
- A.** Upon upgrade to 2.4, you would be prompted to install VM licenses keys. But if you purchased ISE VM previously with no PAK or license key associated, please reach out to ise-vm-license@cisco.com with the Sales Order (SO) number reflecting the VM purchases.
Note: 2.4 only provides license warning for the VM licenses. The ISE deployment continues to operate without disruption.
- Q.** We purchased Device Admin previously. Do I need to buy more licenses if I upgrade to 2.4?
- A.** If you purchased Device Admin as a deployment-wide license, you can continue to utilize all nodes in the deployment for TACACS+ transactions. This means the license entitles your deployment to the maximum number of nodes supported by ISE for the deployment.
- Q.** Can I mix appliance types in my ISE deployment?
- A.** Yes. You can use different appliance types in your environment, but all appliances need to be on the same software versions.

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- Q.** What license do I need with pxGrid?
- A.** There is no single license associated with pxGrid. Cisco licenses features that may or may not leverage pxGrid to communicate between systems. A session using these features will consume a license, though context sharing itself will not. See the section titled “Cisco ISE licenses” for details about the various features that might make use of pxGrid and the appropriate license for each.
- Q.** How do I use pxGrid with Plus licenses?
- A.** This question is unclear because it does not ask about a specific licensed feature. Context sharing is assumed. pxGrid is used to share context collected by ISE with both Cisco and third-party products. For a list of supported integrations, please [see our Technical Alliance page](#). And for details on licensing behavior for both scenarios, refer to Table 4. A Plus license is required to enable pxGrid functionality. There is no session-count decrement when context for a session is shared. However, because context shared is across the entire number of sessions in ISE, to use pxGrid, the number of Plus sessions licensed must be equal to the number of Base sessions licensed.
- Q.** Can I mix separate Base, Plus, and Apex licenses with Mobility licenses in a Cisco ISE deployment?
- A.** No. A Cisco ISE deployment cannot mix Base, Plus, and Apex licenses with the Mobility or Wireless licenses in the same deployment.
- Q.** Can I add an ISE Device Administration license on top of Mobility licenses?
- A.** Yes.
- Q.** Can an ISE deployment operate with just the ISE Device Administration license?
- A.** No, an ISE deployment requires at least 100 ISE Base session licenses in order to operate. The ISE Device Administration should be added to the deployment after the ISE Base licenses.
- Q.** Can a single endpoint consume more than one license?
- A.** Yes, but not more than one license of each type. For example, a single endpoint could consume both a Base and a Plus license. However, a single endpoint cannot consume two Base licenses, or two Plus licenses, and so on.
- Q.** Do I need to enable RADIUS accounting on my network access devices?
- A.** Yes. Properly configured RADIUS accounting is essential for accurate Cisco ISE license consumption metrics and endpoint session monitoring.
- Q.** Does an endpoint with a session authorized by MAC Authentication Bypass (MAB) consume a license?
- A.** Yes. A Base license will be consumed by an endpoint that receives MAB to access the network.
- Q.** What happens to an existing customer with Plus, Advanced, or Wireless licenses when they upgrade to Cisco ISE 2.0 or later releases?
- A.** Cisco ISE 2.0 has no impact on existing licenses in terms of services, count, and term. Existing customers with Wireless licenses that migrate to 2.0 or later releases will see a Wireless to Mobility name change in the administrative console, but they will have exactly the same functionality, plus the ability to provide VPN access control. Existing Plus customers will continue to function as they do in Cisco ISE 1.2. Existing Advanced customers that migrate to Cisco ISE 2.0 or a later release will see the Advanced name decomposed into Plus and Apex in the administrative console, but they too will have same functionality.

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- Q.** What is the status of the advanced license in Cisco ISE 2.0 and later releases?
- A.** An Advanced license can still be consumed in ISE 2.0 or a later release deployment, but customers should find that separate Plus and Apex licenses are more cost effective allowing a la carte consumption.
- Q.** How will this impact advanced renewals?
- A.** Any Advanced customer looking to renew can now “right-size” license consumption based on enterprise-specific use cases. For example, an advanced customer that has been using Advanced only for profiling functionality can now renew at the Plus level.
- Q.** Can the older (non-“S”) Advanced, Wireless, or Wireless Upgrade licenses be co-termed or renewed?
- A.** No.
- Q.** Can a deployment include a mix of Plus with Apex licenses on top of Base licenses?
- A.** Yes. This configuration would be useful in a number of environments. One example: a deployment of 7500 sessions that requires profiling for 5000 sessions and posture for 2500 sessions. In this case the configuration would be 7500 Base, 5000 Plus, and 2500 Apex, and AnyConnect Apex based on number of users.
- Q.** Can I order ISE licenses as optional items when selecting appliances?
- A.** No ISE licenses are defined as spares and must be ordered as individual line items.
- Q.** Can a Cisco ISE deployment have just Base and Apex licenses?
- A.** Yes. ISE Base, Plus, and Apex licenses can be consumed a la carte. Valid license choices are Base only; Base and Plus; Base and Apex; Base, Plus and Apex; or Base, Plus, Apex and Cisco AnyConnect Apex.
- Q.** Is there an equivalent of the Base license for Mobility use cases (wireless and VPN)?
- A.** No. The Base license supports wired, wireless, and VPN sessions with the features described above in this ordering guide. The Mobility license enables all the features offered by the Base, Plus, and Apex described above in this ordering guide, but for wireless and VPN sessions only.
- Q.** Can the Plus or Apex or the sum of Plus and Apex licenses count be greater than the total Base count?
- A.** No.
- Q.** Is a Cisco AnyConnect Plus license required with a Cisco ISE Plus license?
- A.** No. However, using a Cisco AnyConnect Plus license with Cisco ISE Plus enables the collecting and sharing of endpoint context for VPN uses cases. Please note that the Cisco AnyConnect Plus license will work with the Cisco ISE Base license, but the detailed endpoint information will not be collected. For additional information on AnyConnect Plus, please refer to the Cisco AnyConnect Ordering Guide.
- Q.** What are the different services enabled by Cisco ISE Apex as opposed to Cisco ISE Apex with Cisco AnyConnect Apex?
- A.** Cisco ISE Apex is the license tier to enable compliance context collection and the use of that information as authorization attributes within ISE policies. For example, using a third-party MDM/EMM platform to detect and control access based on “PIN lock status” and “jailbreak status” requires a Cisco ISE Apex license. The Cisco ISE Apex license count required in this use case is the maximum number of potential concurrent MDM/EMM enrolled mobile sessions active on the network and controlled by Cisco ISE, and not every MDM/EMM enrolled endpoint. Cisco ISE Apex with AnyConnect Apex enables AnyConnect as the unified agent for PC compliance along with all the additional value-add Cisco AnyConnect services such as “always on,” trusted network detection, etc.

As in the previous example, the Cisco ISE Apex license count would be for the maximum number of concurrent sessions where Cisco AnyConnect acts as the unified agent in the Cisco ISE deployment for posture, etc., and not, necessarily, every endpoint that will be running AnyConnect. The number of Cisco AnyConnect Apex licenses needed is based on all the possible unique users that may use Cisco AnyConnect Apex services and not each and every device running Cisco AnyConnect. Please note that AnyConnect Plus and Apex fall under a separate user-based license structure, which is different from the Cisco ISE endpoint session-based license structure. For additional Cisco AnyConnect information, please review the Cisco AnyConnect content on Cisco.com.

- Q.** Are there specific renewal license SKUs to order when renewing a license, and is there a built-in renewal discount?
- A.** No, there is no specific Cisco ISE license SKU for renewals. Customers must reorder or renew the general licenses. There is no built-in renewal discount, but a nonstandard discount might be arranged through your Cisco Certified Partner or Cisco sales team.
- Q.** Does endpoint registration consume a Plus or Apex license?
- A.** No. Endpoint registration (e.g., for BYOD) is the process of an endpoint being registered with the My Devices portal and, when appropriate, being supported by native supplicant provisioning. Neither of these operations consumes a Plus or Apex license. However, making use of z registration status or endpoint profile during authorization will, in fact, consume a Plus license. For example, a student could add a gaming platform manually through the My Devices portal, but it would not use a Cisco ISE Plus license until that gaming platform is connected and authorized to connect to the network through Cisco ISE.

After that gaming system is turned off, the Cisco ISE license count is returned and made available for another device. Note that having a Plus license is required to enable the My Devices portal and native supplicant provisioning.

- Q.** If I have both Plus and Apex licenses, and I am using endpoint profiling within an authorization rule as well as posture information, which license type gets used?
- A.** Both a Plus and an Apex license session will be consumed in this use case.
- Q.** If I deploy Cisco ISE with primary and secondary Administration nodes, can I have the licenses registered to both nodes?
- A.** Yes. The [Cisco PAK registration page](#) allows a PAK and the associated license file to be registered to the Unique Device Identifiers (UDIs) of the primary and secondary Administration nodes. The registration of the PAK to the primary Administration node is mandatory; the registration of the secondary Administration node is optional.
- Q.** If I upload a license file only to the primary Administration node, will it propagate license information to the other Cisco ISE nodes on the network?
- A.** All nodes in a Cisco ISE deployment use the license applied to the primary Administration node. If the primary node fails, the secondary Administration node is promoted and uses the licenses acquired from the primary Administration node.
- Q.** What is a UDI?
- A.** A UDI is the unique device identifier of each Cisco ISE appliance. The UDI comprises three values: the Product ID (PID), the Version ID (VID), and the serial number.

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- Q.** I need to change or upgrade my Administration node. Do I need to buy new licenses?
- A.** No. Valid ISE licenses can be rehosted to the UDI of a new node (see <https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/products/security/identity-services-engine/index.html> for more information).
- Q.** I want to extend support on my ISE virtual appliances but I bought the non "R-" SKUs. Do I need to buy new appliances?
- A.** No. Please apply for a PAK according to the ISE release notes. Once a PAK is received, the installed base record is updated so you can continue with ISE under service as a medium VM.
- Q.** If I installed 5-year Mobility licenses and have 3 years remaining in the term before they expire, and I want to install Mobility Upgrade licenses, what license term should I select?
- A.** The Mobility Upgrade license is no longer available. Customers who purchased wireless or mobility licenses will need to maintain their current configurations until expiration.
- Q.** What does "co-term" mean?
- A.** When a license is purchased with an adjusted term duration to co-terminate along with another license, the two licenses are considered co-termed. Refer to the question above for an example to show how co-term works.
- Q.** When does the term begin for a Cisco Identity Services Engine license?
- A.** Consistent with Cisco policy, the Identity Services Engine license term starts 24 hours after dispatch. All Identity Services Engine licenses are electronically delivered and are typically dispatched within 48 hours after order processing.
- Q.** What happens when a Cisco ISE term-based license expires?
- A.** When a Plus or Apex license expires, the Plus-level (profiling, BYOD, etc.) or Apex-level services (posture, third-party MDM, etc.) are no longer available in the Policy menu. Base licenses are unaffected by Plus or Apex license expiration. When a Mobility license expires, the user is redirected to the License Import page so that a new license can be installed.
- Q.** Will I receive an alert before license expires?
- A.** Yes. An alert will be generated 30 days before the date of expiration and will be sent hourly. Additionally, the licensing homepage (Main Menu: Administration > Licensing) displays the date at which each license expires.
- Q.** Can I extend the term of my Cisco ISE evaluation license?
- A.** Yes. To extend the term of your evaluation license, please contact your Cisco sales team or partner. Additional details are available [here](#).
- Q.** How is a license renewal placed?
- A.** The Cisco Commerce Workspace (CCW) and Cisco Service Contract Center (CSCC) tools support license renewal quotes and orders. Contact your regional Cisco Content Renewals team to obtain the appropriate quote and deal ID.
- Q.** When is the earliest that a license renewal can be quoted and placed?
- A.** In accordance with Cisco policy, Cisco ISE license renewals can be quoted 6 months in advance of the license expiring and placed 60 days prior to the license expiring.
- Q.** When is the latest that a license can be renewed?
- A.** Licenses can be renewed up to 30 days past the license expiration date. After 30 days, the license can't be renewed and a new license order will need to be placed.

- Q.** Whom should I contact for additional information?
- A.** Please contact your local Cisco sales representative or Cisco Certified Partner.
- Q.** What is the difference between the Cisco Temporal Agent and NAC Web Agent?
- A.** The Cisco Temporal Agent is replacement solution for the NAC Web Agent. Like the NAC Web Agent, the Cisco Temporal Agent is designed to address posture use cases where a persistent agent is unworkable (e.g., guest). But unlike the NAC Web Agent, the Cisco Temporal Agent supports both Windows and macOS and does not rely on the endpoint's browser for embedded launch.
- Q.** Which license do I need to purchase to make use of the Cisco Temporal Agent?
- A.** You will need to purchase one Cisco ISE Apex license in addition to one Cisco Base license for each active session making use of the Cisco Temporal Agent.

7. Service offerings

SWSS support is included for the duration of the all Cisco ISE subscription licenses.

Please note that [Smart Net Total Care](#) or [SWSS](#) support contracts for Cisco ISE physical and virtual appliances must be purchased separately and are required to consume any ISE subscription licenses. Smart Net Total Care and SWSS support contracts for Cisco ISE physical and virtual appliances cover Base and Device Administration deployments as well. Please also note that Cisco does not offer stand-alone ISE software upgrade services SKUs or separate support SKUs for subscription licenses.

8. License management

Cisco offers a variety of license management tools at the [License Registration Portal](#). A valid Cisco.com user name and a password are required to access the portal. Key features of the Cisco License Registration portal include:

- Simplified asset management: identifies PAKs registered to a customer and the devices with installed licenses
- Automated software activation: quickly processes PAK registration and license file distribution
- License transfers: rehosts existing licenses to new Cisco ISE Administration nodes
- Replacement of devices: uses the “return materials authorization” to request replacement PAKs and licenses



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