

## Cisco ISE Express – Launch Guide



Cisco ISE Express is new licensing available as of May 2015 that offers the same dynamic Guest features of the market-leading Cisco ISE in an entry-level bundle, priced aggressively at 70-80% less than the competition.

### Enterprise Guest for Less

Guest access has become an essential – almost required – service for practically every business, and, as technology has advanced, their guests expect easy access and a fast connection. Often times, such services present a pricey proposition to many smaller organizations and cost-conscious institutions. In response to this, the Cisco ISE team created ISE Express, a comprehensive bundle that offers Enterprise-level guest services – including hotspot, sponsored and self-registration portals – and RADIUS/AAA for access control for 150 endpoints at an aggressive, entry-level price.

The bundle includes Cisco Identity Services Engine (ISE) Base licensing for 150 endpoints, an ISE virtual machine, unlimited access to the ISE Portal Builder, a web-based portal customization tool, and a [quick installation guide](#). This bundle offers an appealing entry point for customers to deploy Cisco ISE in a network with the opportunity to not only purchase additional guest licenses (up to 5,000 total) but also further expand ISE services at a later date – e.g., add licensing for bring your own device (BYOD) or advanced policy use cases.

Cisco ISE includes native design capabilities that allow you to quickly design a portal by adding images (e.g., logos and banners) and selecting a color theme to match a corporate brand. Included with ISE Express is unlimited use of the ISE Portal Builder, a web-based tool that allows users to create highly customized portals in 17 different languages with a suite of 10 designer templates that are easily customizable and easily exportable to Cisco ISE.

Cisco ISE Express is restricted to a single instance and cannot be run as a distributed solution or in a high-availability configuration. Nevertheless, it offers an easy introduction to Cisco ISE, which can be sold by non-ATP partners, and can scale to support up to 5,000 endpoints on the included VM server. IT administrators will discover that deploying and configuring Cisco ISE Express is a simple and streamlined process. The [ISE Express Installation Guide](#) can be found on Cisco.com.

For more details on ISE go to <http://cisco.com/go/ise>. For more details on ISE Express, contact your certified Cisco reseller.

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## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q.** What is Cisco ISE Express?

**A.** Cisco ISE Express is an affordable, easy-to-install Guest Access licensing bundle targeting small to mid-sized companies that can be sold by all Cisco partners, with or without Authorized Technology Provider (ATP) certification.

**Q.** What is included with the bundle?

**A.** ISE Express includes an ISE virtual machine (ESX-compliant), licenses for 150 guest endpoints, customizable guest portals, RADIUS/AAA, a quick-start guide and free unlimited use of the ISE Portal Builder.

**Q.** How much does the bundle cost?

**A.** Cisco ISE Express has a list price of \$2,500 US.

**Q.** What guest services does it offer?

**A.** Sponsored, self-registered, and hotspot.

**Q.** Can I add more guests?

**A.** Yes, you can sell additional license packages and add them to the license.

**Q.** Are there any restrictions with the ISE Express license?

**A.** The following restrictions are in place for the ISE Express license:

- Limited to a maximum of 5000 active endpoints;
- Unable to function in a High-Availability deployment alongside other ISE appliances;
- Cannot participate in a distributed ISE deployment alongside other ISE appliances where different ISE personas are in use.

**Q.** How many guests or endpoints can this support?

**A.** This license will allow you to scale up to 5,000 endpoints. Licensing for additional endpoints beyond the included 150 licenses will require a partner to either have ATP certification or partner with an ATP-services partner (either Cisco Advanced Services (AS) or a BU-sponsored services ONLY partner).

**Q.** Will this support wired networks?

**A.** Yes. This license will support both wired and wireless guest access and RADIUS services

**Q.** Can I add services like BYOD and posture?

**A.** Yes. Adding additional services requires the purchase of premium licenses (ISE Plus and ISE Apex) to support those services. Upsells for these starter licenses will require an ATP-certified partner.

**Q.** Q: What customers are appropriate for ISE Express?

**A.** Typically, commercial and small enterprises with a single and relatively small site.

**Q.** Will ISE Express work in a distributed ISE environment?

**A.** No. This product is licensed for a single instance. ISE Express is not licensed to support distributed ISE operation.

**Q.** What types of customers are NOT appropriate for ISE Express?

**A.** If a customer will require distributed operation (multiple virtual machines or servers working collectively), high-availability, or scale beyond the 150 endpoints included with the license it is recommended that you sell the standard ISE solution – whether ISE Base (ATP Required) or ISE Mobility (ATP NOT Required).

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- Q.** Can I add High Availability (HA) to ISE Express?
- A.** No. This product is licensed for a single instance only; ISE Express is not licensed to support HA.
- Q.** If my customer decides to move to a high-availability deployment, can they repurpose licenses from the ISE Express VM to their new ISE VMs?
- A.** Yes. ISE licenses can be re-hosted.
- Q.** What if my customer will eventually need more than 5,000 endpoints?
- A.** For such a deployment, ISE Express may not be the correct solution. Generally, customers with numerous endpoints require distributed operation and high availability. ISE Express does not support either.
- Q.** Q: How long will it take to install?
- A.** Installation takes anywhere from ninety minutes to three hours, depending on what the customer requires for services during setup. Find the [ISE Express Installation Guide](#) on Cisco.com.
- Q.** Can I customize the guest portals?
- A.** Yes. Cisco ISE offers native features that allow you to customize the guest portals with your own corporate logos and banners, various color themes, and support for seventeen languages.
- Q.** What if my customer requires a more advanced custom portal?
- A.** Cisco ISE Express includes access to a web-based tool called the [ISE Portal Builder](#), where you or your customer can create an unlimited number of dynamic guest portals, free of charge.
- Q.** How can I purchase the ISE Express bundle?
- A.** Go to Cisco Commerce Workspace (CCW); the SKU is R-ISE-GST-BUN-K9= with a list price of \$2500.
- Q.** Can you compare the ISE Express bundle to the ISE-100 License SKU?
- A.** ISE Express includes an ISE VM (ESX-compliant) and a bundle of 150 endpoint licenses and lists for \$2500. The ISE-100 license SKU does not include the ESX virtual machine and lists for \$6,500.
- Q.** Do I have to be an Authorized Technology Provider (ATP) partner to sell ISE Express?
- A.** No. Cisco ISE Express is open to ALL Cisco partners to sell.
- Q.** Do I have to be an ATP partner to sell upgrades for ISE Express?
- A.** Selling upgrades for ISE Express starter licenses, in general, will require an ATP-certified partner. However, non-ATP partners have multiple options available to them:
- Selling ISE Mobility licenses do not require ATP certification. Please keep in mind that general ISE license restrictions still apply – i.e., it is not possible to “add” Mobility licenses to an ISE Base or ISE Express installation. ISE Express policy and configuration will need to be migrated.
  - Non-ATP partners can simply partner with an ATP-services partner (either Cisco Advanced Services (AS) or a BU-sponsored services ONLY partner) to avoid ATP requirements and sell ALL ISE licenses.
  - Non-ATP partners can now more easily obtain ATP certification. Cisco now offers two classes for our partner engineers: a two-day pre-sales ISE ATP training class and a post-sales five-day class. Pass either exam for the appropriate class, and you’ll qualify to sell any ISE license for the respective pre- or post-sales effort.



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Printed in USA

C67-736030-00 10/15

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