

How to Add a Firewall Exception for Access By Examscreen

This guide explains how to create a firewall rule to allow Access By Examscreen to connect to its activation server. The first step, which is crucial, is to locate the application's executable file (.exe).

The ideal firewall rule would be to allow outbound traffic from your workstations to the destination url examscreenextra.co.uk on TCP Port 443.

Find the Application's File Path Before creating the rule, you need to know exactly where the software is installed:

1. Find the desktop shortcut for Access By Examscreen.
2. Right-click the shortcut and select Properties.
3. In the Properties window, look at the Target field. This shows the full path to the executable file (e.g., C:\Program Files (x86)\Access By Examscreen\AccessByExamscreen.exe).
4. Click the "Open File Location" button. This will take you directly to the folder containing the .exe file. Keep this location in mind for the next steps.

Option 1: For the Built-in Windows Defender Firewall

These instructions are for users who do not have a third-party antivirus program managing their firewall:

- 1. Open Advanced Firewall Settings:**
 - a. Click the Start Menu and type "Windows Defender Firewall".
 - b. From the search results, click on "Windows Defender Firewall with Advanced Security".
- 2. Select Outbound Rules:** In the new window that opens, click on "Outbound Rules" in the left-hand pane. An outbound rule controls connections that a program on your computer tries to make to the internet.
- 3. Create a New Rule:** In the right-hand Actions pane, click "New Rule...". This will launch the New Outbound Rule Wizard.
- 4. Configure the Rule:**
 - a. Rule Type: Select "Program" and click Next.
 - b. Program: Select "This program path:". Click the Browse... button and navigate to the location you found in Step 0. Select the AccessByExamscreen.exe file and click Open, then click Next.

- c. Action: Select "Allow the connection". This ensures the firewall does not block the activation request. Click Next.
- d. Profile: To ensure the software works on any network (work, home, public Wi-Fi), leave all three boxes checked: Domain, Private, and Public. Click Next.
- e. Name: Give the rule a descriptive name that you will recognise later, such as "Allow Access By Examscreen Activation". You can add an optional description.
- f. Finish: Click the Finish button.

The rule is now active. The user should restart the Access By Examscreen software and try the activation again.

Option 2: For Third-Party Antivirus/Firewall Software (Norton, McAfee, Bitdefender, Avast, etc.)

If a third-party security suite is installed, it will almost always manage the firewall instead of Windows Defender. While the exact steps differ for each brand, the principle and terminology are very similar.

1. **Open the Security Software:** Double-click the antivirus icon in your system tray (bottom-right of the screen) or find it in the Start Menu.
2. **Find the Firewall Settings:** Look for a section named "Firewall", "Network Security", or "Internet Security". You may need to go into an "Advanced Settings" or "Settings" menu to find it.
3. **Locate Application / Program Rules:**
 - a. Within the firewall settings, look for a sub-section called "Application Rules", "Program Control", "Manage Rules", or something similar.
 - b. This section will show a list of programs on your computer and their current internet access permissions (e.g., "Allow," "Block," or "Auto").
4. **Add or Edit the Rule for Your Software:**
 - a. Look for AccessByExamscreen.exe in the list. If it's there, ensure its permission is set to "Allow" or "Full Access".
 - b. If it is not in the list, look for an "Add Program" or "Add Rule" button. This will open a browser window allowing you to navigate to the program's location (which you found in Step 0) and add it to the list.
 - c. When prompted, set the access level for the program to "Allow".
5. **Save the Changes:** Make sure to save or apply your new settings. Relaunch the Access By Examscreen software and retry the activation.