

An education technology provider extends University software to any device

How a higher education software-delivery provider integrated Parallels Remote Application Server (RAS) into its platform to give universities flexible access to Windows applications and virtual desktops across diverse devices and locations.



THE CUSTOMER

A higher education software-delivery provider helps colleges and universities centralize access to academic applications through a single student-facing portal. Rather than forcing institutions to standardize on one delivery technology, the provider combines multiple application-delivery methods and uses Parallels RAS when Windows applications or virtual desktops need to reach users beyond traditional Windows-managed endpoints. RAS is licensed and operated as part of the provider's service for multiple education customers.

THE CHALLENGE

- **Deliver Windows applications beyond Windows devices:** Universities needed a practical way to reach students using macOS, Chromebooks, tablets, mobile devices, and unmanaged endpoints.
- **Avoid a one-size-fits-all VDI model:** Not every application requires a full remote desktop, so the platform needed to select the right delivery method for each app, user, and device.
- **Keep the student experience simple:** Students and faculty needed one place to discover and launch software without understanding the delivery technology behind each application.
- **Support off-campus and BYOD access:** Institutions wanted to extend licensed Windows software beyond physical labs while keeping applications centrally controlled.
- **Use a service-provider licensing model,** allowing the education technology provider to operate RAS for multiple institutional customers with usage aligned to the service it delivers.

Any device



Windows apps across diverse student endpoints

Unified



One portal with multiple delivery methods

Flexible



Use RAS where remote Windows delivery is needed

THE SOLUTION

Parallels RAS was integrated directly into the provider's unified application-delivery platform as a remote Windows application and desktop delivery option:

- **RAS as an integrated delivery engine**, allowing administrators to assign Parallels RAS to applications that require server-hosted Windows execution while keeping other apps on lighter delivery methods.
- **Cross-platform launch options**, using the Parallels native client or browser-based HTML5 access to deliver Windows applications to Windows, macOS, Chromebooks, iOS, Android, and other supported endpoints.
- **A unified application portal**, so users launch software from the same catalog regardless of whether the application is local, virtualized, streamed, SaaS, or delivered through RAS.
- **Single sign-on integration**, including SAML pass-through support in current integrations to reduce additional authentication prompts when users move from the portal into RAS-hosted applications.

The result is a delivery model in which RAS is used selectively for the workloads that need remote Windows execution, while the broader platform can continue using other delivery methods where they are more appropriate.

THE OUTCOME

- **Expanded device reach for university software**, giving institutions a way to make Windows applications available to users on non-Windows and unmanaged devices.
- **One consistent software-access experience**, with students and faculty using a single portal while the platform determines the appropriate delivery technology behind the scenes.
- **More efficient use of remote delivery**, because RAS can be reserved for applications and users that need a hosted Windows session instead of placing every workload into a full VDI model.
- **A repeatable multi-institution service model**, enabling the provider to incorporate Parallels RAS into software-delivery environments for multiple higher education customers.
- **Ongoing integration investment**, with the platform continuing to maintain RAS compatibility, security improvements, authentication integration, and launch workflows as the products evolve.

Why Parallels Ras

**Cross-platform
Windows
application
delivery without
forcing every
university
workload into
a traditional
VDI stack.**

About Parallels RAS: Parallels Remote Application Server (RAS) is a virtual application and desktop delivery solution that helps education organizations and technology providers securely deliver Windows applications and desktops across devices and locations with centralized management and flexible deployment options.