



# Granular Delegated Admin Privileges (GDAP) in Cloud Solution Provider (CSP)

## Value and vision

### Vision

Cybersecurity continues to be one of the top challenges of our digital age. Creating a secure ecosystem requires the adoption of a holistic security approach that includes a [zero trust](#) mindset, cloud-first posture, and the investment in people and skills. Zero trust follows the principles of verify explicitly, use least privileged access, and assume breach. Organizations who operate under these principles are more resilient, consistent, and responsive to new attacks. With our partners, we're taking steps aligned to these principles to secure the channel.

Protecting access to customer data is a critical part of securing the ecosystem and partners should take action to employ tools for the principle of least privileged access.

### Granular Delegated Admin Privileges (GDAP)

With the new GDAP capability, partners can control more granular and time-bound access to their customers' workloads. This means that partners can better address security concerns from their customers. Partners can also provide more services to customers who are uncomfortable with the

current levels of partner access and who have regulatory requirements to **provide only least privileged access to partners.**

## Features

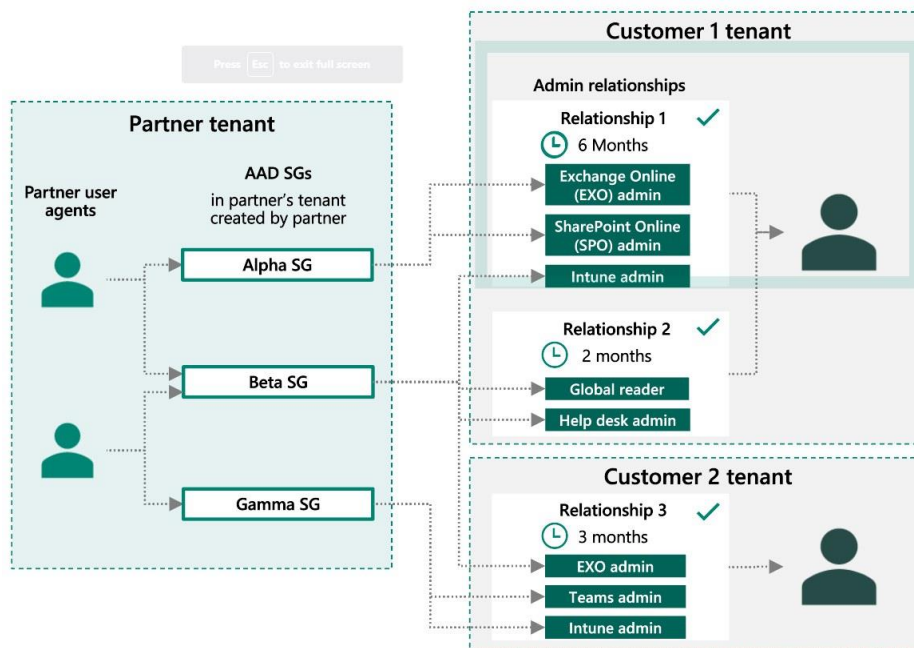
### Features

Duration	Supported roles	Security groups (SGs)	Reporting	Termination
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partners can select a GDAP relationship duration of between 1 and 730 days.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partners can choose from any <a href="#">Azure Active Directory (AAD) roles</a> that are supported by GDAP for granularity, which can be approved by customers at partner tenant scope.</li> <li>Partners are discouraged from selecting a <a href="#">global administrator role</a> for GDAP invitation requests.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partners can <a href="#">create SGs</a> in their partner tenant to organize their employees so that they can restrict their access per customer per Microsoft 365 workload level and partition their employees' access per customer, depending on the business need.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partners can use GDAP reporting analytics in Partner Center to track:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Invitations pending approval from customers.</li> <li>Which relationships across their customers are expiring.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Either the partner or the customer can terminate access granted through GDAP.</li> </ul>

## How GDAP works

GDAP provides restriction of access at the customer, partner tenant, partner user, and workload levels.

Partner user agents are assigned to SGs. Each SG is given access to customer workloads for a fixed duration of time. The access expires automatically at the end of the duration.



## Considerations for transitioning from DAP to GDAP

- While DAP and GDAP will coexist during the transition period, GDAP will eventually replace DAP. This is to ensure that we provide a more secure solution for our partners and customers. We advise transitioning your customers to GDAP as soon as possible to ensure continuity.
- There are no changes to the existing DAP relationship flow while DAP and GDAP coexist.
- Partner earned credit (PEC) earnings won't be affected when you transition to GDAP. There will be no changes to the partner admin link (PAL) with the transition, ensuring that you continue to earn PEC. Disabling DAP will not remove PAL.
- GDAP permissions will take precedence over DAP permissions:
- The precedence for GDAP permissions over DAP permissions works at the partner tenant, customer tenant, and workload levels. For example, if a partner user signs in for a given workload and there's DAP for the global admin role and GDAP for the global reader role, the partner user will get the global reader permissions only.
- Transitioning a large customer base from DAP to GDAP:
- This can be carried out by APIs starting in late February. This will require customer consent.
- Microsoft have build a bulk transition tool for partners that will help them transition all their customers from DAP to GDAP without requiring customers' consent.
- GDAP will be required to turn on Microsoft 365 Lighthouse in the future.
- The partner user will need to have the right GDAP permissions on the customer's tenant if they want to view that customer in Microsoft 365 Lighthouse.
- If the GDAP relationship expires, that customer will no longer be visible in Microsoft 365 Lighthouse.

For information on how GDAP works for Azure, refer to the [Granular delegated admin privileges \(GDAP\) introduction](#) in Microsoft Docs.

## Transitioning from DAP to GDAP

- 1 Audit existing DAP connections.**

Determine how partner agents within your organization are accessing customer tenants through DAP using the DAP monitoring tool.
- 2 Remove inactive DAP connections.**

Review the active and inactive DAP connections using the monitoring tool. We strongly recommend removing any inactive DAP connections as soon as possible.
- 3 Start planning for your DAP-to-GDAP transition.**

Understand what activities your partner agents carry out in the customer tenant to determine which GDAP roles will be most applicable.
- 4 Transition to GDAP.**

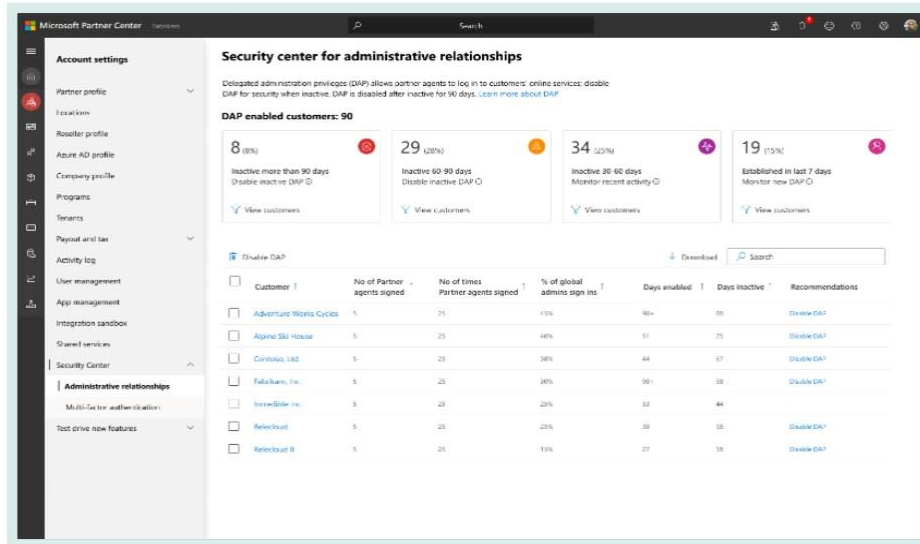
Begin your transition to GDAP by referring to the step-by-step guide. This process will require your [customer to approve the GDAP request](#).
- 5 Disable DAP.**

After you've been granted GDAP by your customer and confirmed that you can perform all necessary admin activities on behalf of your customer, you should disable your existing DAP connection.

- [customer to approve the GDAP request.](#)

## 1. Audit existing DAP connections

### DAP monitoring report



### DAP monitoring report

- This report displays all the DAP-enabled customers for the partner.
- This report can be used by direct bill partners, indirect providers, and indirect resellers transacting through the CSP program.
- Partners with the admin agent role can access this reporting.
- Partners can access DAP reporting by going to:

**Partner Center > Account settings > Security Center > Administrative relationships**

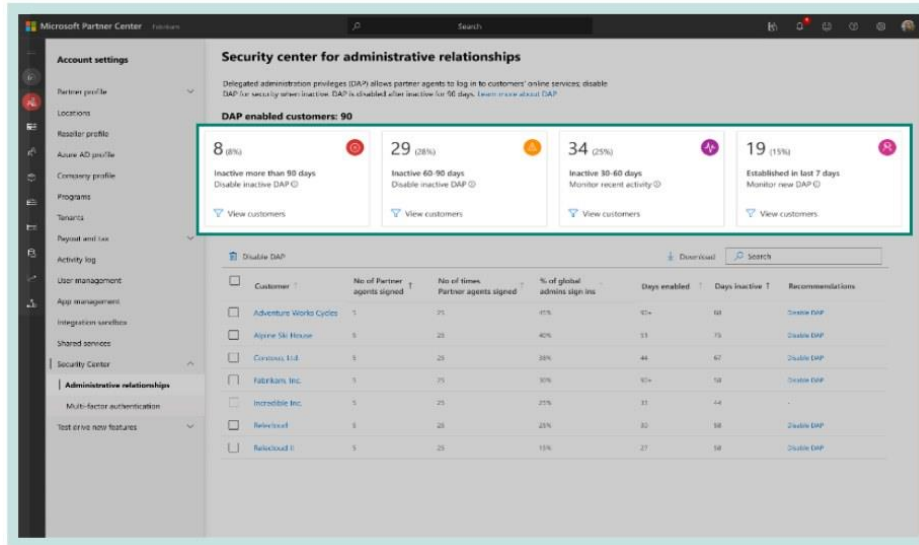
Please note: APIs aren't currently supported for this reporting feature.

We're also offering service providers [AAD Premium Plan 2](#), which provides extended access to sign-in logs and premium features such as AAD Privileged Identity Management (PIM) and risk-based conditional access capabilities for strengthening security controls.

### Filter options for managing DAP

- Inactive for more than 90 days: Displays the number of customers whose DAP relationship has been inactive for more than 90 days. Partners will be recommended to remove DAP if inactive for more than 90 days.

- Inactive for 60 to 90 days: Displays the number of customers whose DAP relationship has been inactive between 60 and 90 days. Partners will be recommended to remove DAP if inactive for more than 60 days.
- Inactive for 30 to 60 days: Displays the number of customers whose DAP relationship has been inactive between 30 and 60 days.
- Established in the last seven days: Displays the number of customers whose DAP relationship was established in the last seven days.

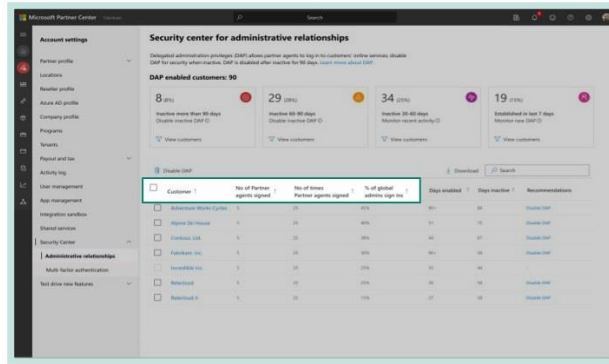


Note: Active DAP connection is defined as connections where partners are accessing the customer’s tenant through the Partner Center portal and administer on behalf of (AOBO) or when partners use APIs to connect to the customer’s tenant by exchange of tokens.

### Field details

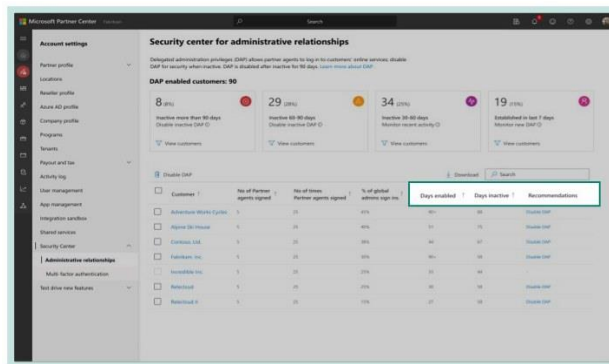
This report provides details about each customer’s DAP connection and the activity associated with it. It includes:

- Customer name
- Number of partner agents signed in: The number of unique partner agents who have signed in to the customer tenant in the last 30 days.
- Number of times partner agents signed in: The number of times the partner agents signed in to the customer tenant in the last 30 days.
- Percentage of global admin sign ins: The percentage of times the partner agent signed in to the customer tenant as a global admin.



Note that this report took effect from December 7, 2021. However, some partners can see metrics that include data prior to this date.

- Days enabled: The number of days since the DAP or GDAP relationship has been established between the partner and the customer. If it's more than 90 days, it will be displayed as 90+, otherwise you'll see an absolute number.
- Days inactive: The number of days since the DAP or GDAP relationship has been inactive between the partner and the customer. If it's more than 90 days, it will be displayed as 90+, otherwise you'll see an absolute number.
- Recommendation: Recommendation to turn off DAP will be provided if the partner agent has not signed in to any of the customer's workload in the last 60 days.



## 2. Remove inactive DAP connections

### Considerations for turning off DAP access

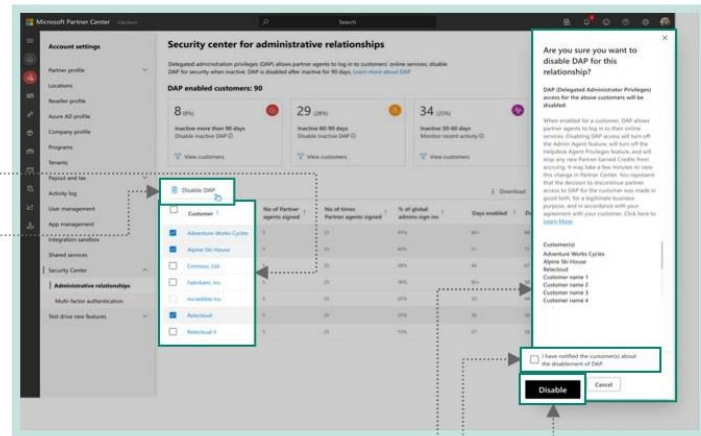
- Ensure that you notify your customer about turning off DAP.
- Partner agents won't have access to the customer's online services.
- Turning off DAP access for a customer will turn off the partner's administrator privilege to manage capabilities on the customer tenant.
- Transacting partners can continue to place orders on behalf of their customers.

- Partner agents can no longer raise a support ticket on behalf of their customers to Microsoft.
- It can take a few minutes for the changes to reflect in Partner Center.
- Turning off DAP won't affect current role-based access control roles on a subscription, so it won't affect PECs.

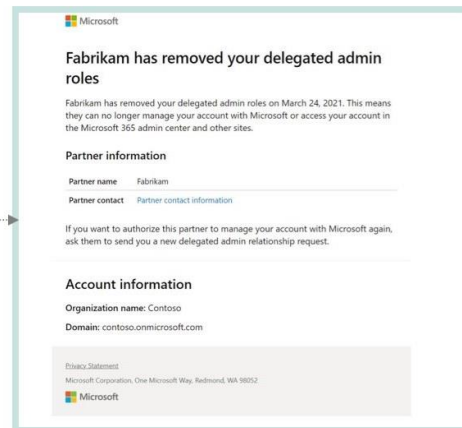
## DAP removal

Partners have the option to remove DAP access if admin privileges are no longer required for a customer. Follow these steps to remove DAP access:

- 1 Select the customer for whom you would like to turn off the DAP relationship.
- 2 Select **Disable DAP** on the upper-right corner of the report.
- 3 A prompt will appear, asking you to confirm if you'd like to turn off DAP.
- 4 Check the box confirming that you've notified the customer(s) about turning off DAP.
- 5 Select the **Disable** button.



- 6 The customer will receive an email notification informing them that the partner has removed the delegated admin role on their account.

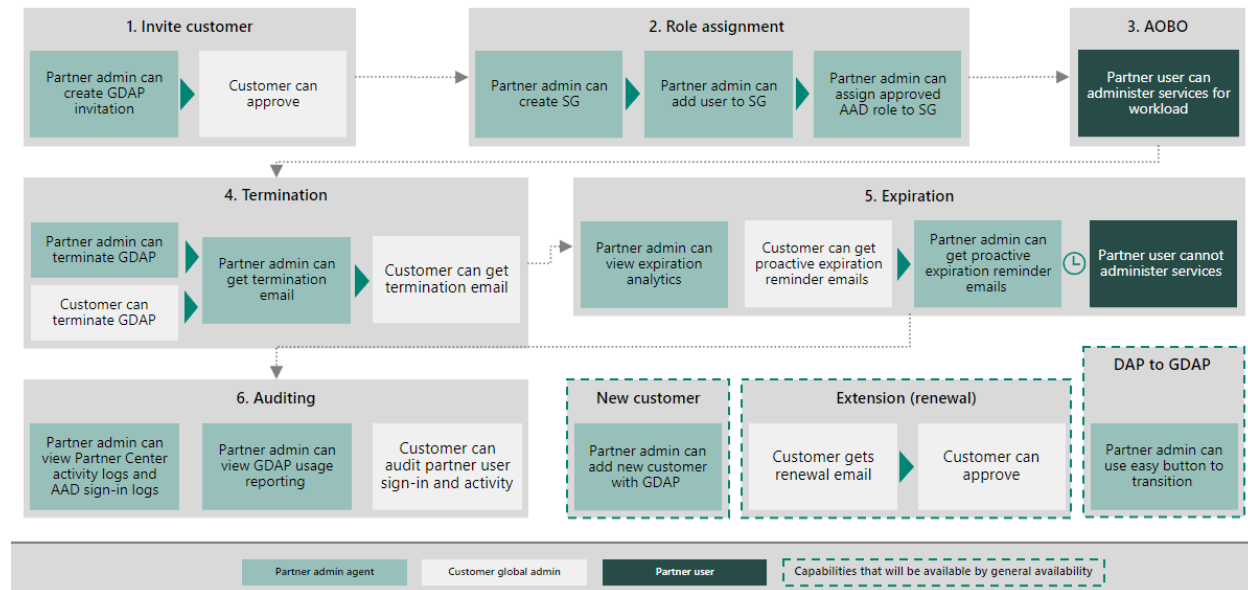


## 3. Start planning for your DAP-to-GDAP transition

### Prepare for your transition

- Understand what activities your partner agents carry out in the customer tenant.
- We recommend granting your partner agents the least privileged roles based on the tasks that they carry out.
- Refer to the [guidance](#) to help you determine which GDAP roles will be the most applicable.

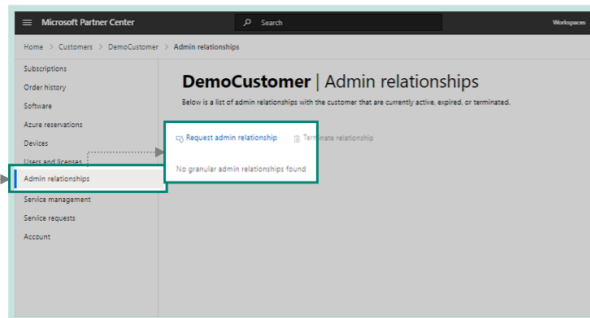
## Transition to GDAP



## Inviting the customer

### Create admin relationship invitation request

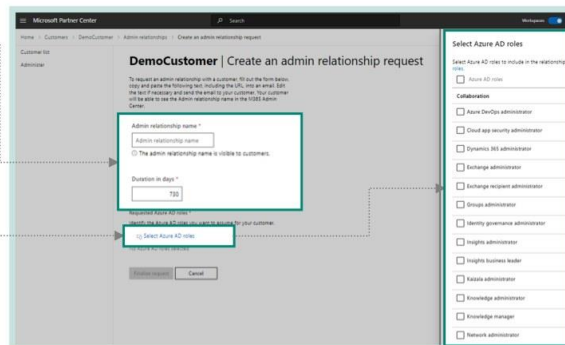
- Only the partner admin agent within the partner organization can raise a GDAP invitation request. From the Partner Center menu, select **Customers**, and on the **Customers** page, select a customer.
- For that customer, select **Admin relationships**, and then select **Request admin relationship**.



### Create admin relationship invitation request

- On the next page, enter the appropriate details in the **Admin relationship name** and **Duration in days** fields.
- Select **Azure AD roles**, which opens a side panel with a list of granular AAD roles. Review which least privileged AAD built-in role can be selected [here](#).


The **admin relationship name** must be unique and visible to the customers in the Microsoft 365 Admin Center. **Duration in days** is the time after which the granular admin relationship will automatically expire. After expiration, you will no longer have admin access to manage customer services. The maximum duration is 730 days.

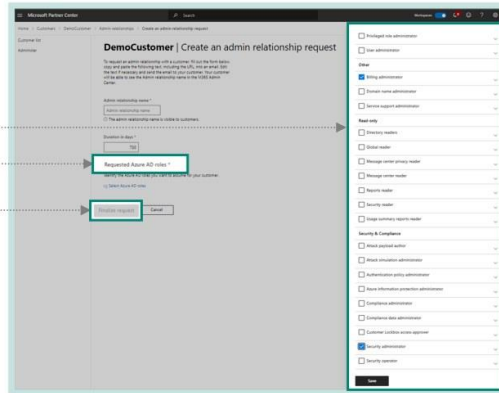


Review which least privileged AAD built-in role can be selected [here](#).




## Create admin relationship invitation request

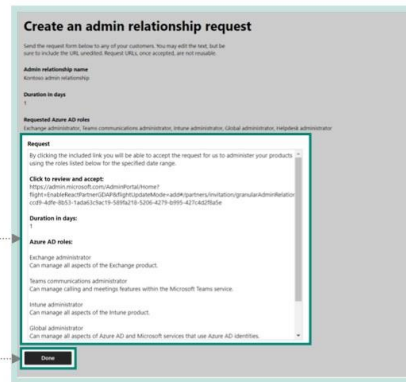
- 5 Select the roles that you want to request access to, and select Save.
  - 6 All selected AAD roles will appear under the Requested Azure AD roles section.
-  You can repeat these steps multiple times for addition or deletion of selected roles.
- 7 To confirm, select Finalize request, which will initiate an email that will go to your customer, requesting the admin access.



## Create admin relationship invitation request

- 8 Review the draft email message. You can open the draft message in your default email application, or you can copy the message that has the GDAP invitation link to your clipboard and paste it into an email for your customer.
- 9 Send the email to your customer.
- 10 Select Done when you've reviewed the email and sent it to your customer.


 You can edit the text in the email, but be sure not to edit the GDAP invitation link because it's personalized to link the customer directly to your account.

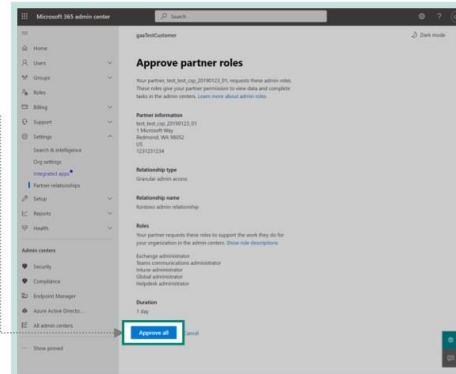


## Approve admin relationship invitation request

Your customer can approve your GDAP request.

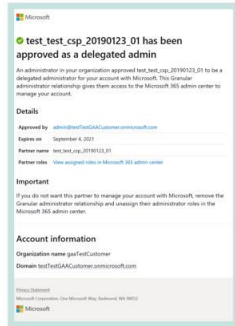
- 1 The customer will need to select the GDAP invitation link.
- 2 On the Approve partner roles page, the customer will select Approve all.
- 3 Both you and the customer will get a confirmation email notification after approval.

 Only the global admin on the customer's tenant can approve the GDAP request.



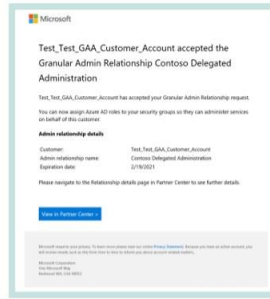
### Email confirmation sent to customer

**Subject:** You have a granular administrator relationship with *name of customer's organization*



### Email notification confirming approval sent to partner

**Subject:** Your customer has accepted the granular administrator request



The admin agent role within the partner organization will receive this email notification.

## Role Assignment

- 1 The partner can [create a security group in the AAD portal](#).
- 2 The partner can [add a user to an SG in the AAD portal](#).
- 3 Assign AAD roles to SG:
  - › Select SG.
  - › Assign SGs to roles in approved admin relationships.

The partner can [create a security group in the AAD portal](#).

The partner can [add a user to an SG in the AAD portal](#).



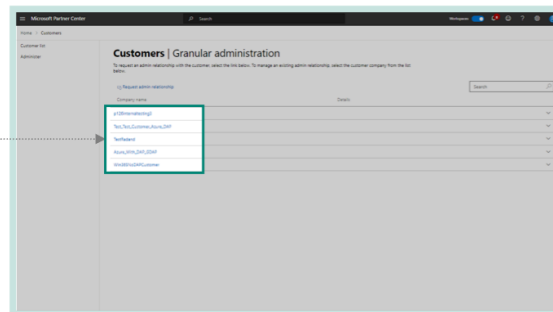
If you prefer to have different partner users managing different customers, then you should assign those partner users to separate security groups for per-customer isolation.

Role assignment works at the customer-to-GDAP relationship level through the Partner Center interface. If you want multicustomer role assignment, you can automate using an API.

### View admin relationships

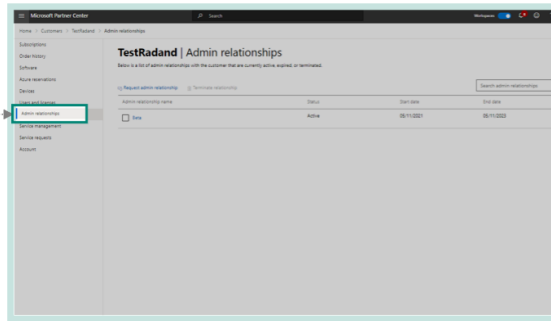
To grant permission to the SGs, complete the following steps:

- 1 From the Partner Center menu, select Customer, and then select Administer. Select the customer that you want to manage.



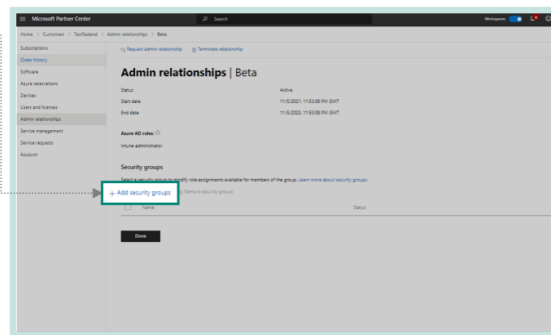
## Select SG

- 2 Select **Admin relationships**, and then select the specific admin relationship that you want to change.



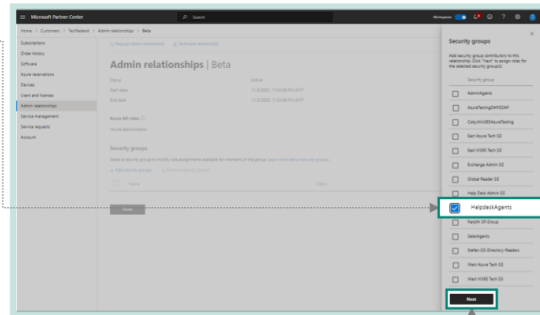
## Select SG

- 3 Under **Security groups**, select **Add security groups**.



## Select SG

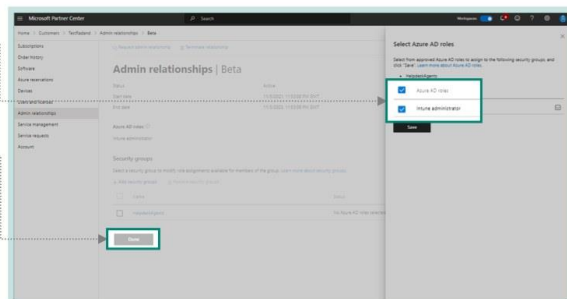
- 4 On the **Security groups** panel, select the SG that you want to grant permissions to.
- 5 Select **Next**. The SG now appears in the **Security groups** section.



Partners can implement [PIM](#) on a GDAP SG on the partner's tenant to elevate the access of a few high-privilege users, just in time (JIT) to grant them high-privilege roles like password admins with automatic removal of access. Microsoft is offering a free [AAD premium plan 2 license](#) for this.

## Assign SGs to roles in approved admin relationships

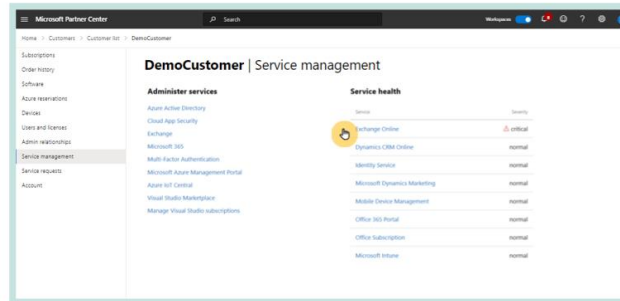
- 6 On the **Select Azure AD roles** panel, select the AAD roles that you want to assign to the SG within that admin relationship. With the AAD roles assigned, users in the SG can administer services.
  - 7 Select **Save** from the panel, and then select **Done**.
- i** You can remove or add more SGs and AAD roles. All the users assigned to the SG can now administer services from the **Service management** page.




Refer to [this article](#) for information needed to restrict a user's administrator permissions by assigning least privileged roles in AAD. We recommend assigning the service support administrator for partner users looking to create support tickets for customers.

## AOBO Services

The partner user can administer services for the customer's workload by going to the customer's Service management page.



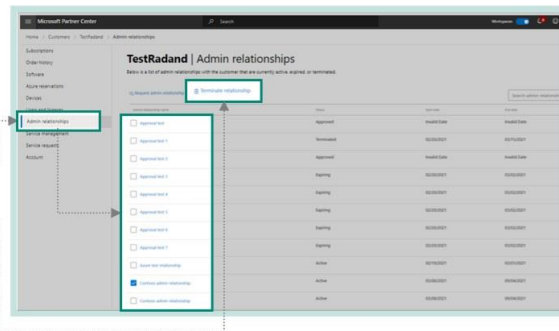
 You don't need GDAP to fulfill orders for new and existing customers. You can continue to use the same process to fulfill customer orders in Partner Center.

## Termination of GDAP

### Terminate an admin relationship (initiated by partner)

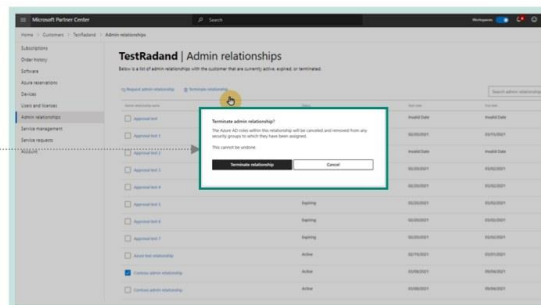
To terminate the granular admin relationship with a customer, complete the following steps:


- 1 From the Partner Center menu, select Administer, and then select the customer whose admin relationship you want to terminate.
- 2 Select Admin relationships, and then select the admin relationship that you want to terminate.
- 3 Select Terminate relationship.



### Terminate an admin relationship (initiated by partner)

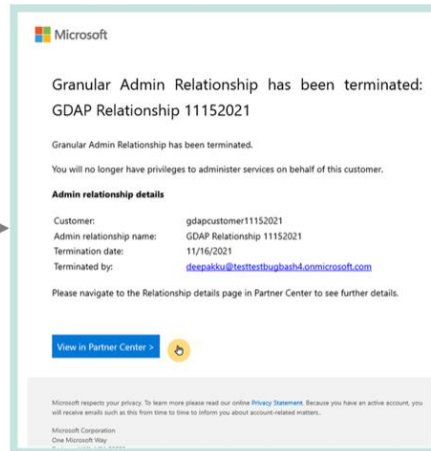
- 4 In the dialog box, confirm that you'd like to terminate the relationship.



 Users who are members of the SG that was mapped to this relationship will no longer have access to administer services. Both the partner and customer will get termination confirmation email notifications.

## Terminate an admin relationship (initiated by partner)

- 5 The admin agent role within the partner organization will receive a confirmation email stating that the relationship has been terminated.



## Terminate an admin relationship (initiated by customer)

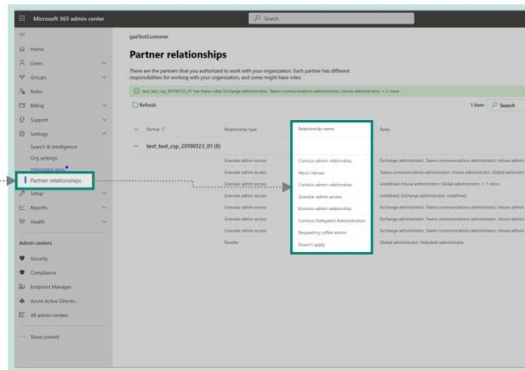
Your customer can decide to remove your GDAP from their tenant. Customers manage rights and permissions to their Microsoft 365 accounts on the [Partner relationships](#) page in the Microsoft 365 Admin Center.

On this page, customers can:

- See which partners they have a relationship with and which partners have GDAP.
- Remove a partner's GDAP from the tenant.

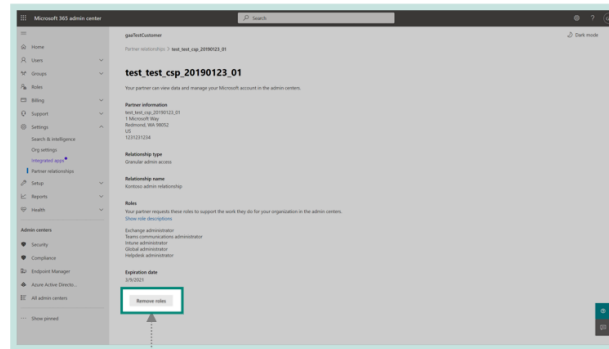
To remove DAP from a partner:

- 1 On the Partner relationships page, select the partner of interest.



## Terminate an admin relationship (initiated by customer)

- 2 On the details pane, select Remove roles.
- 3 On the confirmation pane, select Yes.

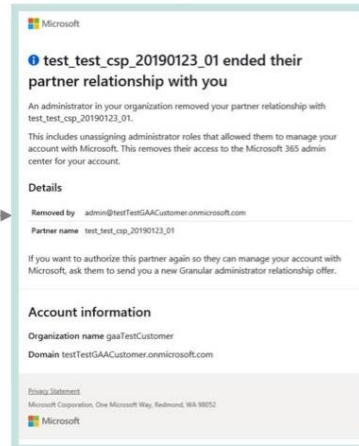


## Terminate an admin relationship (initiated by customer)

4 Both the partner and customer will get termination confirmation email notifications.

i After termination, users who were members of the SG that was mapped to this relationship will no longer have access to administer services.

Within the partner organization, the admin agent role will receive a notification. Within the customer organization, the global admin agent role will receive the notification.

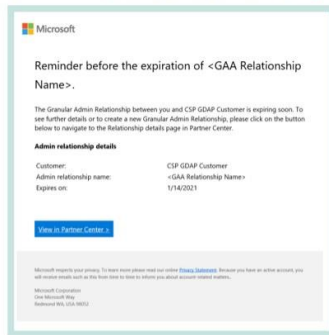


## Expiration of GDAP

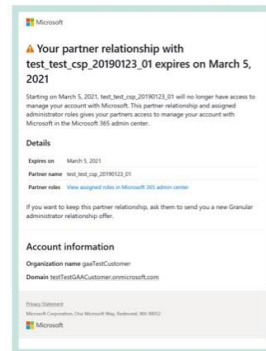
- The GDAP relationship automatically expires on the set expiration date based on the duration that was requested in the GDAP invitation. The default expiration is set to two years (maximum). Permanent GDAP relationships with customers aren't possible for security purposes.
- Before expiration, both you and your customer will receive proactive email notifications 30 days, 7 days, and 1 day before the expiration date.
- On the expiration date, an email notification will be sent to both you and your customer, confirming the expiration of your granular admin relationship.
- After expiration, users who were members of the SG assigned to this relationship will no longer have access to administer services. To extend or renew the GDAP relationship, partners will need to resend the GDAP relationship request to the customer.
- There will be no change to the customer's existing subscriptions if the GDAP relationship expires.
- Autorenewal of GDAP relationships with customers isn't permitted for security purposes.
- To view expired relationships, select Admin relationships.
- The status column will indicate that the relationship has expired.

## Email notification for upcoming expiring relationships

A reminder email notification is sent to the **partner** for upcoming expiring relationships.

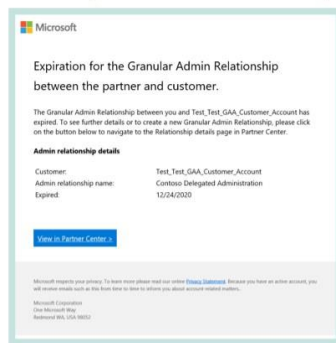


A reminder email notification is also sent to the **customer** for upcoming expiring relationships.

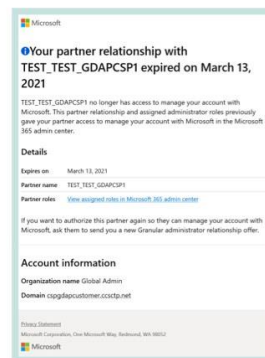


## Expired relationship email notification

An expired relationship email notification is sent to the **partner**.

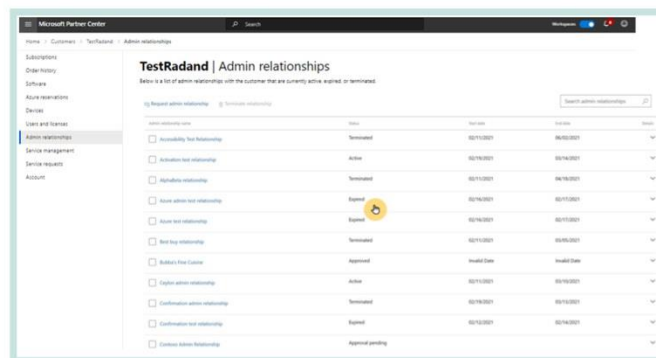


An expired relationship email notification is sent to the **customer**.



## Partner can view expired relationships

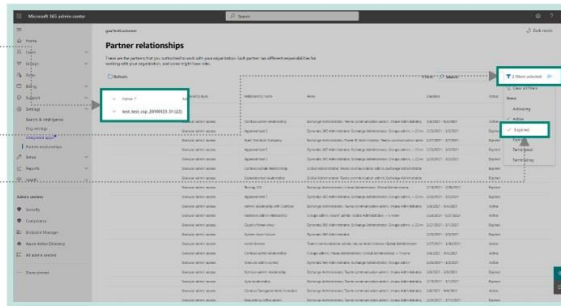
The partner can go to the **Admin relationships** page to view expired relationships. You can see details of the expired relationship on the **Relationship details** page.



## Customer can view expired relationships

The customer can view an expired granular admin relationship for a partner:

- 1 On the Partner relationships page, select the partner of interest.
- 2 Select the filter icon next to the search box.
- 3 Select Expired from the dropdown menu to show relationships that have the Expired status in the table.

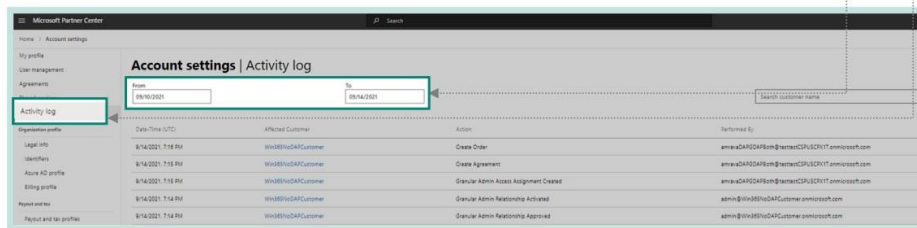


## Auditing

### Partner Center activity logs and AAD sign-in logs

The partner admin can view the Partner Center activity logs and AAD sign-in logs by following these steps:

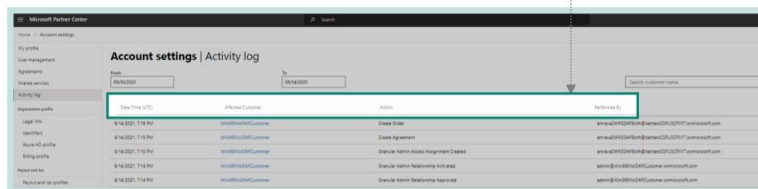
- 1 From the Account settings menu, select Activity log.
- 2 Select the activity log period in the From and To fields. The activity log export defaults to the most recent month.
- 3 Select the down arrow to view the details for any previous activity log.



### Partner Center activity logs and AAD sign-in logs

- 4 The data columns of the log include the following:
  - **Date-Time:** The date and time of the action
  - **Affected Customer:** The customer's company name
  - **Action:** The action taken, such as "Granular Admin Relationship terminated"
  - **Performed By:** The partner associated with the activity
- 5 Select **Export log** to copy the customer's activity data into a .csv file and download it to the default downloads folder on your computer.

Customers can also track the partner user's activity in the [AAD sign-in logs](#) on the customer's tenant.



Customers can also track the partner user's activity in the [AAD sign-in logs](#) on the customer's tenant.

## Disable DAP

- After you've been granted GDAP by your customer and have confirmed that you can perform all necessary admin activities on behalf of your customer, you should disable your existing DAP connection.
- To disable DAP, follow the same steps in the Remove inactive DAP connections section.



## Customer Email Template

### What is this?

To help our partners accurately communicate the changes from DAP to GDAP to their customers we have created an email template you can choose utilise in your customer communications so they understand what's changing and how GDAP will be improve security to their Microsoft services.

### Email Template: Significant Security Updates in Microsoft CSP

Dear Customer,

As part of their **zero trust policies** Microsoft are introducing "Granular Delegated Admin Privileges" (GDAP) to replace the more basic "Delegated Admin Privileges" (DAP) previously used for Microsoft CSP administration.

**GDAP is a security feature** that provides partners with least-privileged access following the Zero Trust cybersecurity protocol. It lets Microsoft partners configure granular and time-bound access to their customers' workloads in production and sandbox environments. This least-privileged access needs to be explicitly granted to partners by their customers. For more information please [click here](#).

As part of Microsoft's Cloud Solution Provider Program we are partnered with TD SYNEX (UK) Ltd. We invite you to accept the relationship invitation that will receive shortly from TD SYNEX (UK) Ltd in order for us to establish the new GDAP relationship with TD SYNEX (UK) Ltd in the Microsoft CSP-model.

TD SYNEX (UK) Ltd is one of the world's largest technology distributors and Microsoft Gold Partner working exclusively with the IT channel to provide range wide range of products and solutions including Microsoft CSP.

If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards

{Reseller name and contact details}