Restricting IP Addresses for Blackboard Learn Tests

It is possible to restrict the IP address from which a student may take a test in Blackboard. For general guidance in setting up Tests, surveys and pools, go to the FRC tutorial “Creating Tests in Blackboard”.

Setting up the Test Options
Once you have created your test, you will be presented with the Test Options page. Option 2, Test Availability, allows you to make decisions about your test’s availability.

2. Test Availability

Make the link available  ○ Yes  ○ No

Add a new announcement for this test  ○ Yes  ○ No

Multiple Attempts
○ Allow Unlimited Attempts
○ Number of Attempts

Score attempts using  Test Graded Attempt

Force Completion
Once started, this test must be completed in one sitting.

Set Timer
Set expected completion time. Selecting this option also records completion time for this test. Students will see the timer option before they begin the test.

Auto-Submit
OFF  ON
OFF: The user is given the option to continue after time expires.
ON: Test will auto and submit automatically when time expires.

Display After: 06/17/2014  10:21 AM

Display Until: 06/17/2014  10:22 AM

Password
Require a password to access the test.

Restrict Location  No

Make your selections for making the link available, adding an announcement, multiple attempts, etc. by selecting the appropriate options. NOTE: We do not advise checking Force Completion. Select Set Timer if you want to set a time limit for the test. Also make your choices for Auto-Submit and the Display After and Display Until. Select a Password if desired.
Under Restrict Location, there are three choices: No restrictions, Allow all IP addresses, and Custom IP filter.

The first two choices allow students to take the exam from any IP address.

If you want to restrict the IP address from which a student may take an exam, choose Custom IP Filter.

When you choose Custom IP filter, the IP Filter Rules box will display. The text below the box reads:

*IP filters permit test or survey access only on computers that you specify. You can allow or block specific IP addresses or a range of IP addresses. List one IP filter per line and use the word BLOCK or ALLOW before the IP address. ALLOW 123.456.3.3 is an example of an IP filter. Wildcards (*) are allowed in any position of the IP address. IPv4 and IPv6 syntax are supported. Specify an IP filter range by inserting a forward slash between two IP addresses. ALLOW 192.168.0.0/192.168.255.255 is an example of an IP filter that uses a range. Only students who are using a computer with an IP address in the allowed range can access the test or survey.*

Using IP Filter Rules, it is possible to limit test access a specific IP address, or a range of IP addresses that may encompass a lab. Use the term ALLOW followed by the IP address or range of IP addresses that you wish to allow.
For example, if you wish to only allow tests to be taken from a single IP address, type ALLOW followed by the IP address. When you click out of the IP Filter Rules box, the Block command is added by Blackboard.

The wildcard symbol (*) after the term BLOCK means that all other attempts from different IP addresses will be blocked from taking this exam.

To allow a range of IP addresses, type ALLOW followed by the IP range, using a forward slash between the two IP addresses.

For lab settings, you will need to consult your lab manager for the IP address range information.

Once you have entered your IP Filter Rules, you can complete the rest of the Test Options and click Submit. Your test will now be available with the settings you specified.

For more information, contact the Faculty Resource Center at 205.348.3532 or frc@ua.edu or visit our website at frc.ua.edu.

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