

System	Cost	Platform	Pros	Cons	Why to choose
FreeRADIUS	Free	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Linux (and similar e.g. Mac OS)</li> <li>* Packaged with most distributions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Integrates with a wide range of authentication backends, including AD, LDAP, Kerberos, and multiple flavours of SQL.</li> <li>* Supports all EAP flavours commonly used for user authentication in govroam (EAP-PEAP, EAP-TLS, EAP-TTLS-PAP, EAP-TTLS-MSCHAPv2)</li> <li>* Flexible configuration language for defining complex policies.</li> <li>* Allows breakout into Perl or Python for exceptionally complex policies. Or integration with more esoteric data sources.</li> <li>* Extensible via plugin modules.</li> <li>* Supports RadSec natively.</li> <li>* Fast and efficient - a pair of RADIUS servers is usually sufficient for govroam deployments.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Does not yet support DNS based Dynamic Discovery for RadSec (not yet relevant to govroam for ORPS deployments)</li> <li>* Can be difficult to configure due to the number of options available, especially for novice system administrators</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* It's extreme flexibility and high performance means that FreeRADIUS is a good fit for most govroam sites, which is why it is the most deployed RADIUS servers within the eduroam federation.</li> <li>* The upshot of it's popularity is that there are many technical guides already published which take some of the edge of the sharp learning curve.</li> <li>* JISC can provide in-house consultancy.</li> </ul>

System	Cost	Platform	Pros	Cons	Why to choose
Microsoft NPS	Free with Windows	* Windows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Windows GUI means no linux or scripting skills or experience needed</li> <li>* Works well with AD</li> <li>* Can be made to do the basics of the required job</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Filtering of RADIUS attributes not properly supported, but over-write workaround is satisfactory</li> <li>* Doesn't support Status Server</li> <li>* Doesn't support Operator-Name injection</li> <li>* Doesn't support Chargeable User Identity</li> <li>* GUI interface limits what you can configure</li> <li>* Everything is policy-based, which makes configuration based on logic somewhat difficult</li> <li>* Logging is minimal and inflexible</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* If you're primarily a Windows shop you may be comfortable with the familiar interface and feel confident in selecting a fully supported product whilst accepting NPS's limitations.</li> </ul>

System	Cost	Platform	Pros	Cons	Why to choose
OSC RADIATOR	From ~£1,000	* Linux * Windows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Integrates with a wide range of authentication backends, including AD, LDAP, Kerberos, and multiple flavours of SQL.</li> <li>* Supports all EAP flavours commonly used for user authentication in govroam (EAP-PEAP, EAP-TLS, EAP-TTLS-PAP, EAP-TTLS-MSCHAPv2).</li> <li>* Flexible configuration language for defining complex policies.</li> <li>* Supports RadSec natively.</li> <li>* A pair of RADIUS servers is usually sufficient for govroam deployments.</li> <li>* Fully supported product - a range of support options are available</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Written in PERL so when your configuration get large and complex the server will get slower.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Its extreme flexibility means that RADIATOR is a good fit for most govroam sites.</li> <li>* The upshot of its popularity is that there are many technical guides already published which take some of the edge of the sharp learning curve and it is provided with a 'goodies' directory containing many recipes ready for use or to start off with.</li> <li>* If you need a flexible RADIUS server, and have the in house expertise to configure it, RADIATOR is a good choice</li> <li>* RADIATOR is written in PERL and can be run on Windows servers (with a prerequisite PERL interpreter installed) which would suit if you're primarily a Windows shop</li> </ul>
Cisco ACS/ISE	From ~£1,000	* Appliance		* Doesn't support Status Server	* An obvious choice if site already makes heavy use of Cisco wireless.
Aruba Clearpass	From ~£4,000	* Appliance * VM			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* FreeRADIUS under the bonnet with a GUI front end</li> <li>* An obvious choice if site already makes heavy use of Aruba wireless</li> </ul>

System	Cost	Platform	Pros	Cons	Why to choose
radsecproxy	Free	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* Linux (and similar)</li><li>* Packaged with most distributions</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* Very small foot print.</li><li>* Simple, flat configuration.</li><li>* Good performance.</li><li>* Supports all the requirements for govroam (e.g. attribute filtering, Operator-Name).</li><li>* Support RADSEC and non-RADSEC connections.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* Just a proxy - no ability to authenticate</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* If your platform cannot do good filtering or add attributes then if you use this at the border to talk to the NRPS you can leverage these abilities.</li><li>* Can be easily dropped in as a pure ORPS.</li><li>* Tiny software footprint</li><li>* Simple configuration file</li></ul>

From:  
<https://wiki.govroam.uk/> - Govroam

Permanent link:  
[https://wiki.govroam.uk/doku.php?id=siteadmin:radius\\_server\\_choice\\_guide&rev=1662545482](https://wiki.govroam.uk/doku.php?id=siteadmin:radius_server_choice_guide&rev=1662545482)

Last update: 2022/09/07 10:11

