Identity Continuity at the Edge

Okta Access Gateway (OAG) Offline Access and Zscaler Private Cloud Controller (PCC) – Mission-ready secure access.

The Challenge

The edge is where the mission lives—but it's also where technology is most constrained.

Operators at the edge face denied, disrupted, intermittent, or bandwidth-limited (DDIL) connectivity as a reality, not an exception. Zero Trust architectures that route through cloud data centers create a critical dependency, and in these environments, that dependency becomes a single point of failure.

When users can't authenticate or access critical applications, every second matters. Security teams lose visibility, access policies go unenforced, and operations stall—potentially at the exact moment when time is the difference between mission success and failure.

The Solution

Continuity for both identity and access management—wherever the mission demands it.

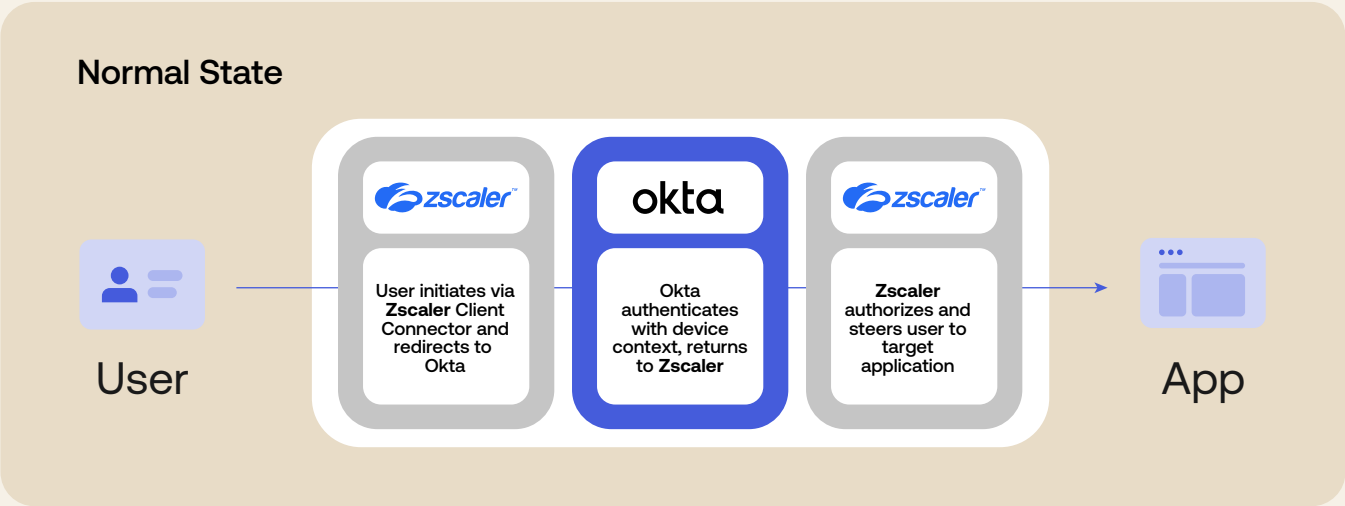
Okta and Zscaler solve the DDIL problem through coordinated, independent continuity mechanisms. Neither vendor replaces the other – together, they cover both sides of the access equation.

Provider	Role
Okta Access Gateway (OAG) Offline Access	Deploys in front of critical on-premises applications. When the Okta cloud IdP is unreachable, OAG authenticates users locally using the customer's pre-configured policy, keeping app access active without a live cloud connection.
Zscaler Private Cloud Controller (PCC)	When endpoints can't reach the Zscaler cloud control plane, ZPA fails over to a customer-hosted PCC. The PCC enforces cached policy for up to 90 days and maintains private app connectivity locally until cloud is restored.

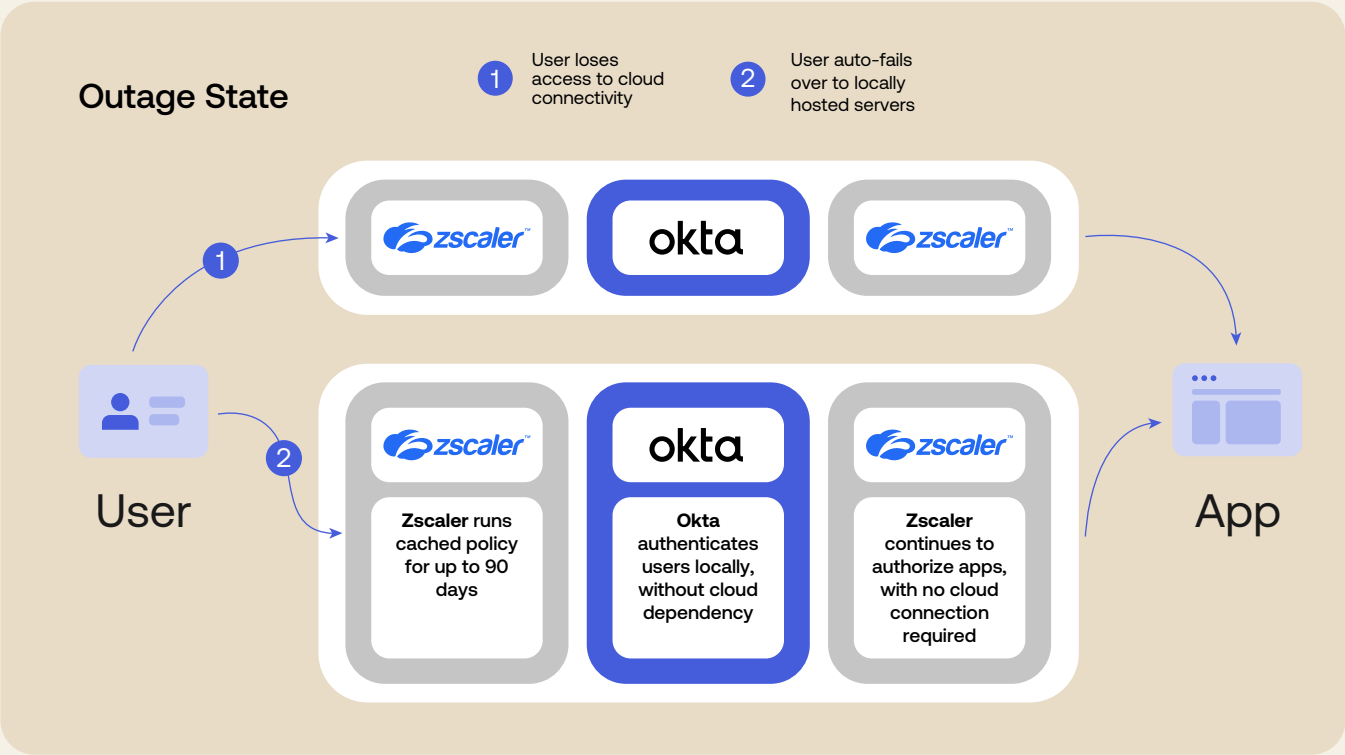
Together, Okta and Zscaler preserve end-to-end connectivity—from verifying the user to connecting them securely to applications (Zscaler)—even when the cloud is unreachable.

How It Works: In Both Normal and Outage States

In a normal state, when cloud connectivity is active, Okta acts as the IdP and Zscaler enforces policy for application access.



In an outage state, when cloud reachability is limited, sporadic, or non-existent, both Okta and Zscaler automatically shift critical functions to customer-hosted servers—no manual intervention required, no disruption to the operator.



Key Use Cases

Tactical Edge & Remote Operations – From forward-deployed military environments and flyaway kits to remote field offices, operators in DDIL conditions must still reach critical applications. OAG Offline Access and Zscaler PCC enable personnel to maintain secure access to private applications without depending on a stable path to the cloud, helping keep operations moving when seconds matter most.

Continuity of Operations (COOP) & Disaster Recovery – When a primary data center is compromised, taken offline, or impacted by a natural disaster, agencies and critical infrastructure organizations need uninterrupted control over user access. The integration keeps authentication and private access running through local fallback components, helping ensure mission continuity even as infrastructure fails over.

Security Visibility During Disruptions – Even during connectivity disruptions, security teams require full visibility into access patterns. This integration ensures that audit trails, access logs, and policy enforcement remain active during DDIL periods—and that access policies configured by the admin remain active—helping ensure no gaps in the authoritative record.

Get Started

Okta Access Gateway Offline Access is available in Limited Early Access[1] and Zscaler Private Cloud Controller is available today. Contact your Okta or Zscaler account team to scope a joint deployment or visit: okta.com/products/access-gateway.

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1 Okta Access Gateway Offline Access is a feature of Okta Access Gateway which is a utility that runs within a customer's on-premises environment. As such, it is outside the scope of our authorization boundary. However, it is available for purchase and is fully supported by Okta Customer Support for this environment.