



Enterprise Access Model: Securing Privileged Access at Scale

A layered architecture for securing identities, admins, and workloads across hybrid and multi-cloud environments.

Concept Overview



The **Enterprise Access Model (EAM)** provides a *unified framework* for controlling access across users, admins, and workloads — spanning on-premises, Azure, and multi-cloud environments. It defines *who can access what, how, and under what conditions* — ensuring consistent security and governance.



Key Pillars: Each layer enforces distinct controls to ensure least privilege and defense-in-depth across all environments.



User Access Layer: Employees, partners, customers accessing services.



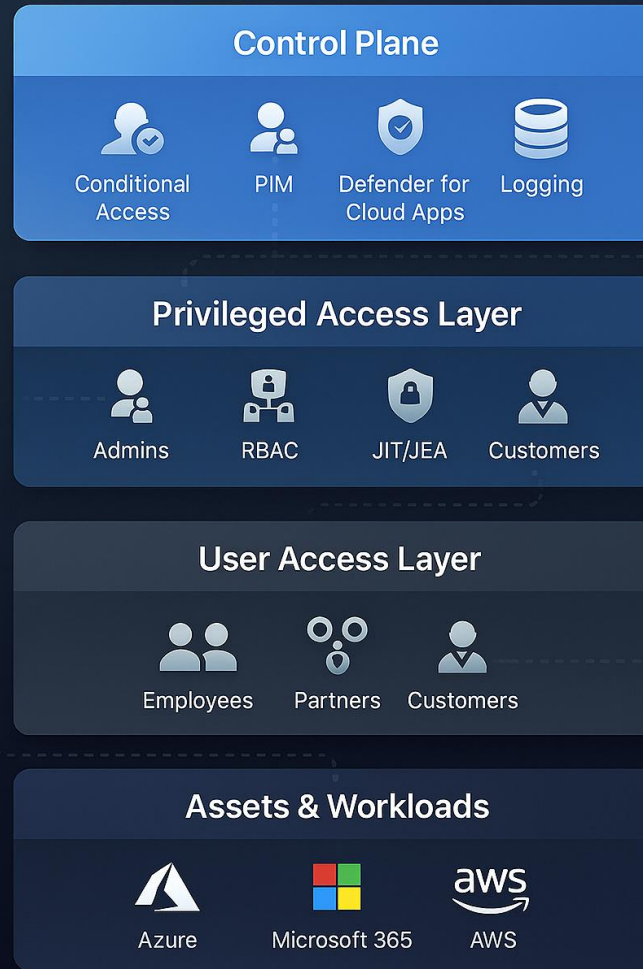
Management Plane: Critical data, workloads, and assets.



Privileged Access Layer: Admins managing infrastructure and security.



Layers of the Enterprise Access Model



Policy

Define and enforce access strategy

Authentication

Verify identity and device trust

Authorization

Control what actions can be taken

Monitoring

Continuously audit and respond

Security Design Principles

- ✓ **Integration with Access Control:** Privileged access is part of the enterprise-wide access control strategy.
- ✓ **Protection of Data & Workloads:** Secure applications, data, and IP using audit, alerting, and compliance policies.
- ✓ **Zero-Trust Enforcement:** Require authentication & re-authentication based on context (location, device, time).
- ✓ **Mitigation of Unauthorized Access:** Apply RBAC + PIM + Conditional Access to minimize attack surface.
- ✓ **Restricted Internet Access for Admins:** Enforce device trust and location policies.

Microsoft Tools in Action

- ◆ **Microsoft Entra ID + Conditional Access:** Central enforcement point
- ◆ **Privileged Identity Management (PIM):** Temporary elevation and access reviews
- ◆ **Microsoft Defender for Cloud Apps (CASB):** Monitors and restricts risky app usage
- ◆ **Audit & Alert Policies:** Log and monitor all privileged operations

Real-World Application

Implementing the Enterprise Access Model helps organizations:

- Reduce excessive permissions
- Strengthen least-privilege policies
- Improve compliance with audit and governance requirements
- Simplify management across hybrid and multi-cloud environments

This model forms the foundation for implementing Microsoft's Zero Trust architecture across identity, data, and workloads.