

MERIT Policy:

ZERO-TRUST FOR YOUR SOFTWARE

▶ WHAT THIS MEANS TO YOU

As part of our evolving capabilities to secure IT systems, we implemented a zero-trust policy to the MERIT security stack. Bad actors and cyber-attacks are more sophisticated, and so is the capability required to thwart software-based threats. As your IT partner, we understand higher grades of security are fundamental to protecting you from the latest threats. The techniques implemented were developed for large government organizations, F5000 companies and enterprise organizations which means they are more robust than most small or medium businesses have access to.

Zero-Trust is a security framework that states:

Organizations should not trust any entity inside or outside of their perimeter at any time.

MERIT provides the IT controls needed to secure, manage, and monitor each device, user, app, and network and our ThreatLocker software provides:

Layered Security

Ransomware Prevention

Compliance

Internal Disputes

Storage Control

Data Privacy

▶ HOW DOES THREATLOCKER WORK:

When you try to install or update a program that is new or unknown, you will encounter a popup (see below). This indicates that ThreatLocker has detected an attempt to install software or perform an action that needs to be reviewed by MERIT before allowing you to proceed.

1 Click "Request Access" to submit your application for MERIT review

2 MERIT will reach out to approve your request or help you find an alternative



Note: please do NOT click "Don't show again" or we will not see your future requests.

if you know you will be updating or installing a program, give a call ahead of time and we can proactively review and white-list it across the organization

About MERIT 2.0

MERIT was founded in 1983 and was re-branded in 2020 as MERIT 2.0. Our Mission Statement is *to educate every worker at every client and provide them the technology to improve.*

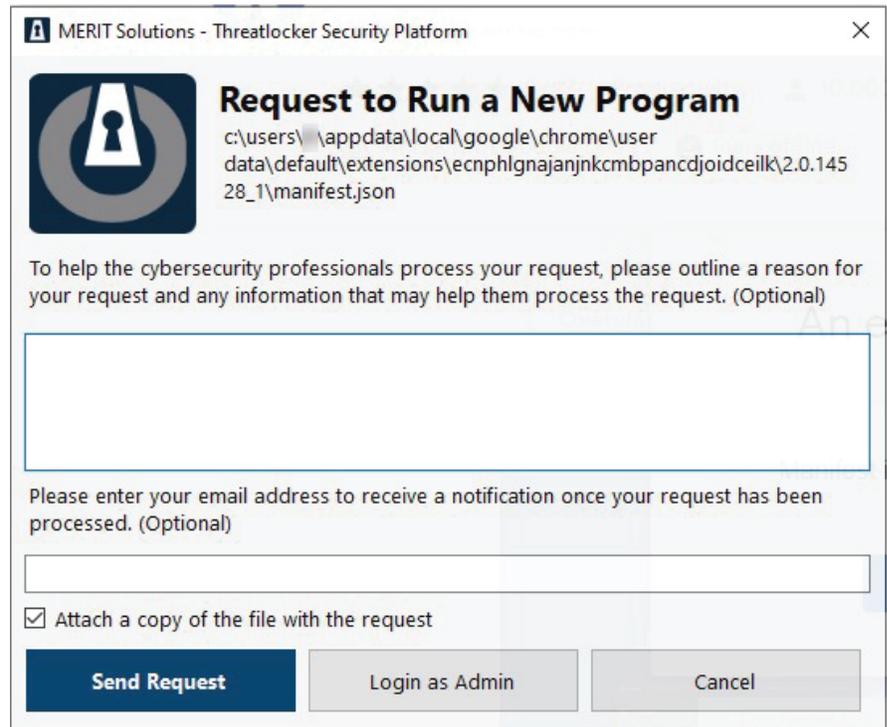
How to Contact MERIT 2.0

SERVICE/REPAIRS/HELP DESK:
e: service@meritsolutions.net
p: 757-420-5150
w: www.meritsolutions.net

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If you need to use the tool or app which was blocked, click

- 1 "Request Access" so MERIT can review your request
- 2 Enter the required information
- 3 Press the "Send Request" button to submit



The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "Request to Run a New Program" from the "MERIT Solutions - Threatlocker Security Platform". It features a keyhole icon and displays the file path: `c:\users\ \appdata\local\google\chrome\user data\default\extensions\ecnphlgnajanjnkcmbpancdjoidceilk\2.0.14528_1\manifest.json`. Below the path, there is a text area for providing a reason for the request. Further down, there is a field for an email address to receive notifications. A checkbox labeled "Attach a copy of the file with the request" is checked. At the bottom, there are three buttons: "Send Request" (highlighted in blue), "Login as Admin", and "Cancel".

- ThreatLocker will block unapproved software, including ransomware, viruses, and other malicious software, from running on your PCs.
- Selecting the "Request Access" button and providing the necessary information will notify MERIT support. We will review the request and ensure the application is not malicious in nature and approve it if appropriate.
- As such, it is vital to let us know in advance if you need any new software installed by entering a ticket with the service desk.

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