

# Restricting Access by IP

Securing access to services is a fundamental part of managing cloud infrastructure. One of the most effective ways to reduce unauthorized access is by restricting connectivity to a defined set of IP addresses. Elestio supports IP-based access control through its dashboard, allowing you to explicitly define which IPs or IP ranges are allowed to interact with your services. This is particularly useful when exposing databases, APIs, or web services over public endpoints.

## Need to Restrict Access by IP

Restricting access by IP provides a first layer of network-level protection. Instead of relying solely on application-layer authentication, you can control who is allowed to even initiate a connection to your service. This approach reduces the surface area for attacks such as brute-force login attempts, automated scanning, or unauthorized probing.

Common use cases include:

- Limiting access to production databases from known office networks or VPNs.
- Allowing only CI/CD pipelines or monitoring tools with static IPs to connect.
- Restricting admin dashboards or internal tools to internal teams.

By defining access rules at the infrastructure level, you gain more control over who can reach your services, regardless of their authentication or API access status.

## Restrict Access by IP

To restrict access by IP in Elestio, start by logging into the [Elestio dashboard](#) and navigating to the **Clusters** section. Select the cluster that hosts the service you want to protect. Once inside the **Cluster Overview** page, locate the **Security** section.



mysql-320dd

MySQL

Cluster

Running

Open terminal

Delete cluster

Add node

Overview

Nodes

Backups

Audit

Termination protection

Disabled. VM can be powered off and terminated.

Protection deactivated



Auto-Failover

Enabled. In case of failure, the cluster will automatically attempt to recover

Auto-Failover activated



Nodes

2 Nodes: 1 Primary, 1 Replica

Add node

Database Admin

Display your database credentials

Display DB Credentials

Support plan

Level1

Upgrade plan

Resync Cluster

Resync cluster on all nodes.

Resync Cluster

Migration

Migrate database

Show migration logs

Migrate Database

Security

Limit access per ip

Within this section, you'll find a setting labeled **"Limit access per IP"**. This is where you can define which IP addresses or CIDR ranges are permitted to access the services running in the cluster. You can add a specific IPv4 or IPv6 address (e.g., 203.0.113.5) or a subnet in CIDR notation (e.g., 203.0.113.0/24) to allow access from a range of IPs.

## Restrict Cluster Access to Specific IP Addresses



To limit access to your cluster, please enter the IP addresses in the list below one at a time and press Enter. If no IPs are provided, your cluster will remain open to public access.

Enter IP or CIDR (hit 'Enter' to add)

Cancel

Update

After entering the necessary IP addresses, save the configuration. The changes will apply to all services running inside the cluster, and only the defined IPs will be allowed to establish network connections. All other incoming requests from unlisted IPs will be blocked at the infrastructure level.

# Considerations When Using IP Restrictions

- When applying IP restrictions, it's important to avoid locking yourself out. Always double-check that your own IP address is included in the allowlist before applying rules, especially when working on remote infrastructure.
- For users on dynamic IPs (e.g., home broadband connections), consider using a VPN or a static jump host that you can reliably allowlist. Similarly, if your services are accessed through cloud-based tools, make sure to verify their IP ranges and update your rules accordingly when those IPs change.
- In multi-team environments, document and review IP access policies regularly to avoid stale rules or overly permissive configurations. Combine IP restrictions with secure authentication and encrypted connections (such as HTTPS or SSL for databases) for layered security.

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