Connecting to the GCC VPN in Windows 10

1) In the lower right corner of your task bar is the “Notification Icon”: 📱 or 📩. Click that, and the Notification side-bar will slide out.

2) At the bottom of the Notification side-bar, you may see a VPN button. If you don’t, click Expand to see more options – then click VPN.

3) A window similar to the one below will appear. Click on either GCC Student VPN or GCC Library VPN, then click connect.

For an explanation on the difference between these two choices, see Which VPN should I choose?, below.

PLEASE NOTE:

- The first time you connect to either VPN service, the connection may take 5 minutes or more. Future connections will be quick.

- To Disconnect, follow the same steps to get to the window shown to the right; the Connect button will now be a Disconnect button.

Which VPN Should I choose?

The Student, Employee and Library VPN all connect to the same place, all with the same access rights to on-campus resources. The difference is all about NON-GCC traffic. By default, a workplace VPN will only send data meant for the workplace (i.e. viewing https://my.gcc.edu in a browser, accessing files on \ed.gcc.edu\Courses, etc.).

If, for example, you were also watching Netflix, your movie would not be routed through the VPN, improving performance. With the Library VPN’s configuration, however, all traffic is routed through the VPN, including Netflix, your online banking, etc. We call this the Library VPN because this type of connection is necessary to access some off-campus library resources (such as JSTOR). It is also useful when you are connected to a public hotspot and want to protect your connection (such as if you were doing banking or online shopping while connected at a restaurant or coffee shop that offers free Wi-Fi).