

Product Platform: **Windows**
Product Version: **8.6.3**
Document Date: **3 November 2025**
Document Version: **1.2**
Classification: **Public**

Windows Browser Extension

Overview

Admin By Request (ABR) for Windows Version 8.6 introduced a new Browser Extension designed to streamline the elevation process for downloaded installers.

When a non-administrator downloads an executable from Chrome, Edge, or Firefox, the extension triggers a system tray toast notification, allowing the file to be elevated and run directly - without navigating to the Downloads folder.

This feature is enabled by default upon installing Version 8.6 and installs a lightweight browser extension that does not collect data or interfere with other extensions; it simply subscribes to browser file download events.

From release 8.6.3, the registry is checked to see where ABR registry keys should be installed: HKLM or HKCU (the default).

Refer to "[Registry Keys](#)" on [page 3](#) later in this technical note for more information.

This technical note is available online:



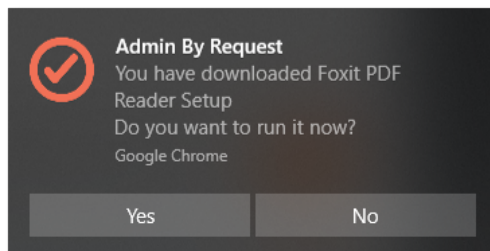
[Windows Browser Extension](#)

About the Browser Extension

A few FAQs about this extension:

- **What does the browser extension do?**

Basically, the browser extension listens for the "download finished" event in the browser. Once the event triggers, it uses Native Messaging to communicate with the ABR client and shows a toast notification with info about the downloaded file:



Once the user clicks the notification, the extension once again uses Native Messaging to communicate with the ABR client – telling it to trigger the flow just as if the user had opened the file via Explorer.

- **Which browsers are supported?**

The extension is built for Chrome and Chromium-based browsers and Firefox:

- For Google Chrome, the extension is fetched from the Chrome Web Store.
- For Mozilla Firefox, the extension is fetched from the Firefox browser add-ons site.
- For Microsoft Edge, the extension is fetched from the Edge add-ons site

- **How is the extension installed?**

The extension is installed and configured via registry keys specific to the individual browser. This ensures that the user does not need to do anything to use the functionality of the extension.

Refer also to ["Registry Keys" on the next page](#).

Portal Setting

We recommend leaving the Browser Extension feature enabled to improve the user experience. However, if you do not wish to use the browser extension, you can remove it by disabling the browser notification setting in the portal at menu:

Endpoint Privilege Management > Settings > Windows Settings > Lockdown > RUN AS ADMIN

These settings control whether or not:

- Users are able to run individual system files with elevated permissions
- PIN Code unlock is available on endpoints
- Browser toast notifications are enabled for downloaded files (requires version **8.6+** on endpoints)

Setting	Type	Description
Deny elevating system files	Toggle On Off Default: Off	On - Prevent the user from starting any file from the System32 directory with administrative privileges, such as cmd.exe or regedit.exe. Define exceptions under App Control > PRE-APPROVE . Off - Allow user to run system files with admin privileges.
Deny system file subprocesses	Toggle On Off Default: Off	On - Prevent spawning any <i>sub-processes</i> of system files. Requires endpoint client version 8.3+ . Off - Do not prevent spawning of sub-processes.
Deny PIN code unlock	Toggle On Off Default: Off	On - Remove the option to use a PIN code to unlock a blocked application. Off - Allow access to the PIN Code unlock option.
Disable browser notifications	Toggle On Off Default: Off	On - The browser extension is removed and no pop-up notification appears after files are downloaded, meaning that running a downloaded file requires users to go the Downloads folder to execute. Requires endpoint client version 8.6+ . Off - Toast notifications are enabled for Edge, Chrome and Firefox. This means that files downloaded in these browsers display a pop-up notification at the end of the download, allowing users to execute the downloaded file.
Save	Button	Saves customization and changes to any fields. Note that reloading any defaults does not take effect until Save is clicked.

Registry Keys

The browser extension does not interact with any pages - its sole purpose is to register for download events. Unless disabled in the portal (Endpoint Privilege Management > Settings > Windows Settings > Lockdown > RUN AS ADMIN), it sets the following registry keys for the current user, which effectively installs the extension.

IMPORTANT

- By default, keys are installed in HKCU. However, if other browser extensions are found installed via HKLM, the ABR keys are installed here instead as browsers won't look in HKCU if a force list install exists under HKLM.
- The ABR keys are **not created** if the CURRENT_USER is an administrator on the endpoint.

Edge

- **com.abr.startapp** points to the Admin By Request native messaging manifest file for Edge.
- **ExtensionInstallForcelist** creates a string value with the data set to the unique identifier of the extension.

```
Key: HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Microsoft\Edge\NativeMessagingHosts\com.abr.startapp
Data: C:\ProgramData\FastTrack Software\Admin By Request\edge.json

Key: HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Policies\Microsoft\Edge\ExtensionInstallForcelist
Data: epedcemobfdkplllcmmillfgcommghhi
```

Chrome

- **com.abr.startapp** points to the Admin By Request native messaging manifest file for Chrome.
- **ExtensionInstallForcelist** creates a string value with the data set to the unique identifier of the extension.

```
Key: HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Google\Chrome\NativeMessagingHosts\com.abr.startapp
Data: C:\ProgramData\FastTrack Software\Admin By Request\chromium.json

Key: HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Policies\Google\Chrome\ExtensionInstallForcelist
Data: plpgadlcmhefelncjjaaggemagdpoeeen
```

Firefox

- **com.abr.startapp** points to the Admin By Request native messaging manifest file for Firefox.
- Under unique ID **com.abr.startapp@adminbyrequest.com**, we create the following keys:
 - **install_url** - points to the URL from where to fetch the extension
 - **installation_mode** - instructs the operating system on how to handle the extension. Can be either *force_installed* (for install) or *blocked* (for uninstall).

```
Key: HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Mozilla\NativeMessagingHosts\com.abr.startapp
Data: C:\ProgramData\FastTrack Software\Admin By Request\firefox.json

Key: HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Policies\Mozilla\Firefox\ExtensionSettings\
com.abr.startapp@adminbyrequest.com
Data: install_url: https://addons.mozilla.org/firefox/downloads/latest/admin-by-request/latest.xpi
Data: installation_mode: force_installed or blocked
```

Unique IDs Summary

- Edge: **epedcemobfdkplllcmmillfgcommghhi**
- Chrome: **plpgadlcmhefelncjjaaggemagdpoeeen**
- Firefox: **com.abr.startapp@adminbyrequest.com**

Document History

Version	Author	Changes
4 August 2025 1.0	Steve Dodson	Initial document release.
6 August 2025 1.1	Steve Dodson	Added "Unique IDs Summary" and updated path to Firefox <i>ExtensionSettings</i> registry key.
3 November 2025 1.2	Steve Dodson	Added note to <i>Registry Keys</i> section about keys installed into HKLM rather than HKCU in certain situations.