

# Clafin University Leverages Threater to **Secure at Scale**



As the university scales its networks to meet growing demands, Threater protects professors, staff, and students from cyber threats.

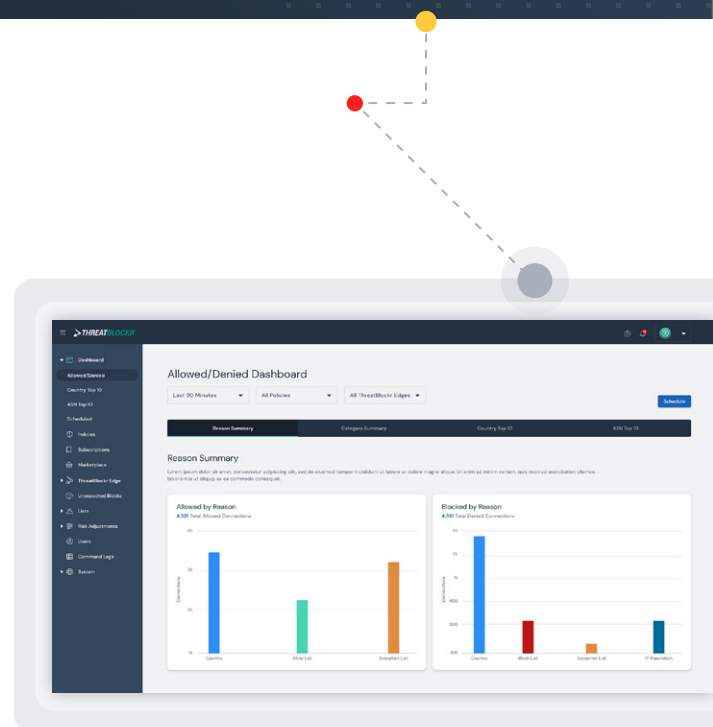
Founded in 1869, Clafin University is a private, historically black university in Orangeburg, South Carolina. With around 2,100 students – 1,300 of whom live on campus – the university has 850 access points for its fiber internet network across campus. Students, professors, and staff require accessible and efficient streaming internet, cable TV, and telephones. With a team of eight IT professionals managing internet connections into the university, it can be challenging to maintain the network’s security and usability for all.

More than 150 years ago, Clafin broke down barriers in higher education, making it the first South Carolina university open to all, regardless of race. Today, Clafin continues to welcome exemplary students of all races and genders who demonstrate a passion to change not only their own circumstances but to change the world as well.

## Challenge: Scaling Securely

In a higher education environment, IT can’t control everything that comes in or goes out. So the goal is to remain as open as possible while staying secure. Prior to the pandemic, Clafin University had about 7 terabytes of data moving across its WiFi every 24 hours. Last semester, that number had increased to 24 terabytes every 24 hours, and the university expects it to double in the next two to three years.

As the cybersecurity industry’s staffing crisis continues to grow, finding and retaining IT and security professionals can be difficult, and especially in budget-restrained industries such as higher education. With limited resources, Clafin University was struggling to maintain its network, let alone continue to grow its capabilities and match user demand. Additionally, threat actor groups emerged specifically targeting K-12 and higher education institutions, exacerbating every challenge the university faced.



# Opportunity: Assessing The Security Gaps

Clafin University underwent an immense multi-year cybersecurity overhaul to protect their networks and data and bring them into the NIST compliance. The first steps in this were to take stock and identify their security gaps in their network and how to fix them while also staying in budget.

## Solution: Threater

The solution to Clafin University's challenges is a multi-layered approach to security. That's where Threater comes in to help defend against cyber threats without requiring the time and resources of a dedicated security team.

Within the first 24 hours of using Threater, Clafin University blocked two million threat actors, and this was before students had arrived on campus for the new semester. As the university scales its network – anticipating more than 5G of internet traffic in the next two years and building for 10G in the future – Threater will support the IT team to keep professors, staff, and students secure.



**“Across the board, educational institutions are struggling to maintain IT people as they are drawn to larger organizations with more resources. When challenged with limited resources from a people, cost, and services perspective, our partnership with Threater enables us to keep our security standards up and maintain a network that keeps our university running. We’re looking forward to continuing our work together as we achieve even bigger and better things.”**

**JOEY BRENN, ASSOCIATE VP FOR IT, CLAFLIN UNIVERSITY**



### About Threater

Threater uses best-in-class threat intelligence to secure your networks, data and users in real-time—wherever they are—on-prem, cloud, remote, or all of the above. Our platform blocks attacks from up to 150M malicious IPs and domains in real-time with no latency. We provide out of the box threat intelligence and integrate data from any source. At Threater, we believe nothing scales like simplicity. We make blocking threats smart and simple—at scale—everywhere.

For more information visit: [www.Threater.com](http://www.Threater.com)