

Troubleshooting VPN

Error: Authentication failed

If you try logging in, but receive an error stating "Authentication failed" after about two minutes, it is probably because you didn't approve the Duo request.

After you log in, the Remote Access Service will contact Duo to see if you are authorized. This usually results in either a notification on your smart phone, or a text message (SMS), if you do not have a smart phone enrolled. You must respond to the notification or enter the SMS code before you can successfully log in.

Find out more on the [Duo two-factor authentication page](#).

Error: Connection attempt failed

If you are receiving an error stating "Connection attempt failed. Please try again." you may have a corrupt profile.

You may receive this error message if you attempt to use the Cisco Secure Client while at the Bloomsburg campus - this is normal. The Remote Access Service isn't available at the Bloomsburg campus, as it is not needed.

To fix this problem, follow these steps to replace your Cisco Secure Client profile with a known good version:

- Close Cisco Secure Client
- Reinstall the Commonwealth University profile:
 - macOS:
 - Press **command** ⌘ + **spacebar**
 - Type **terminal.app** and hit return
 - Type (or copy/paste) this command, then press return to execute:

```
sudo rm -f /opt/cisco/anyconnect/profile/*.xml
```

- Enter your computer's password to confirm you want to run the command
- Type (or copy/paste) this command, then press return to execute:

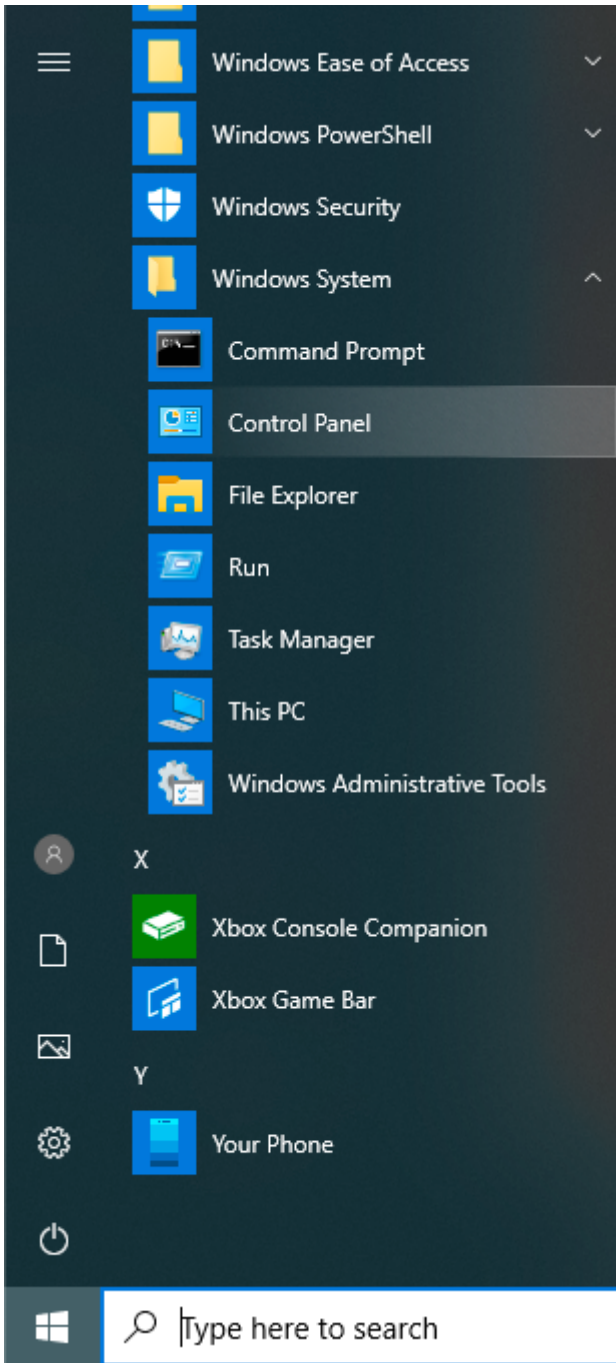
```
sudo curl -o /opt/cisco/anyconnect/profile/Bloomsburg_University.xml  
https://kb.itd.commonwealthu.edu/attachments/5
```

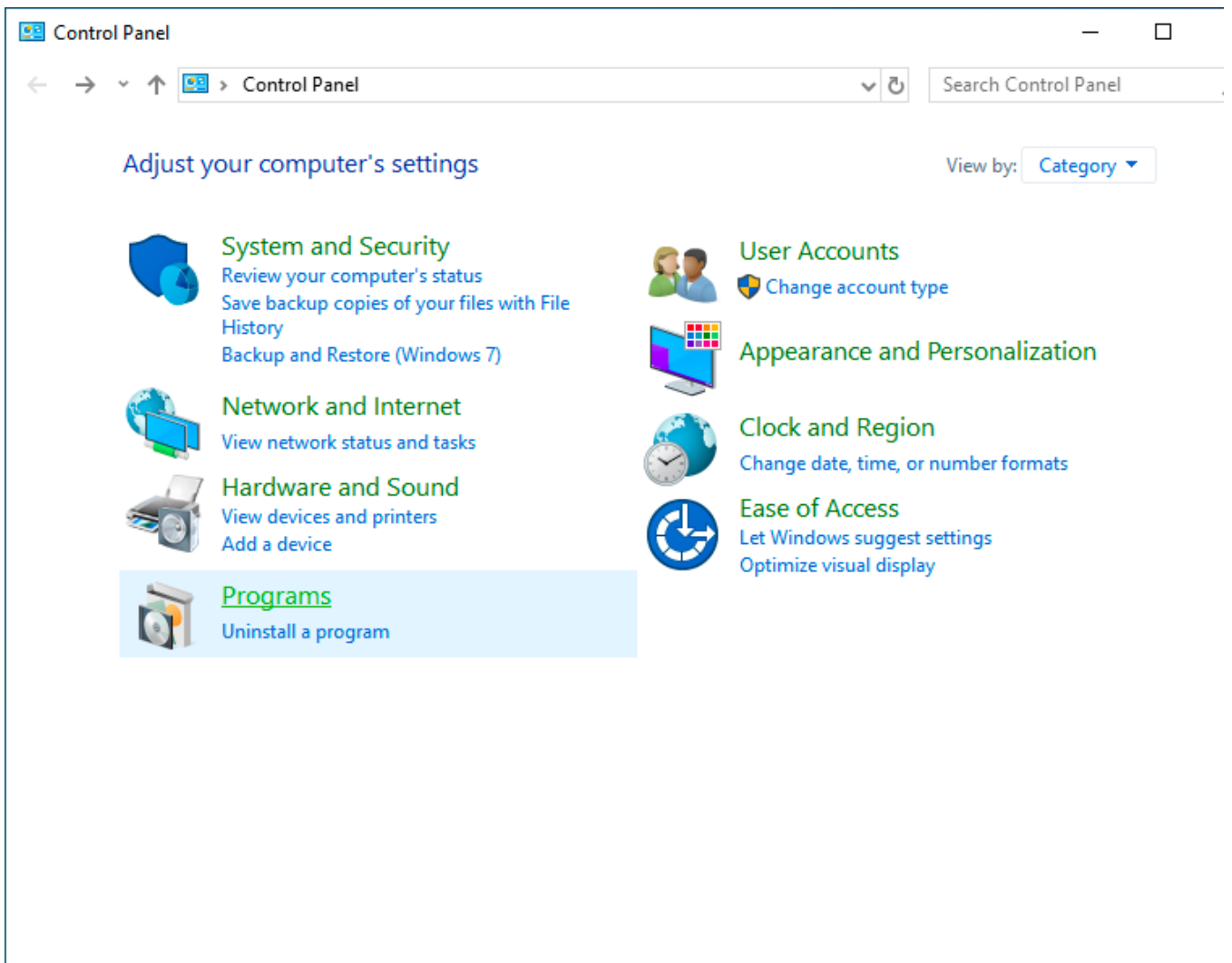
- Close terminal
- Windows:
 - Right click on this link: [Bloomsburg_University.xml](#) and choose download or save
 - Open File Explorer
 - Open Downloads
 - Right click on **Bloomsburg_University.xml** in File Explorer
 - Choose copy
 - In the address bar, enter: **C:\ProgramData\Cisco\Cisco AnyConnect Secure Mobility Client\Profile**
 - Delete any files of the type "XML Document", such as Default_AC.xml and Bloomsburg_University.xml (note: the .xml part of the filename may not be displayed, depending on your computer's settings)
 - In the main pane, right click and choose paste (if prompted to replace, choose yes)
- Restart your computer

Last resort: Removing Cisco Secure Client

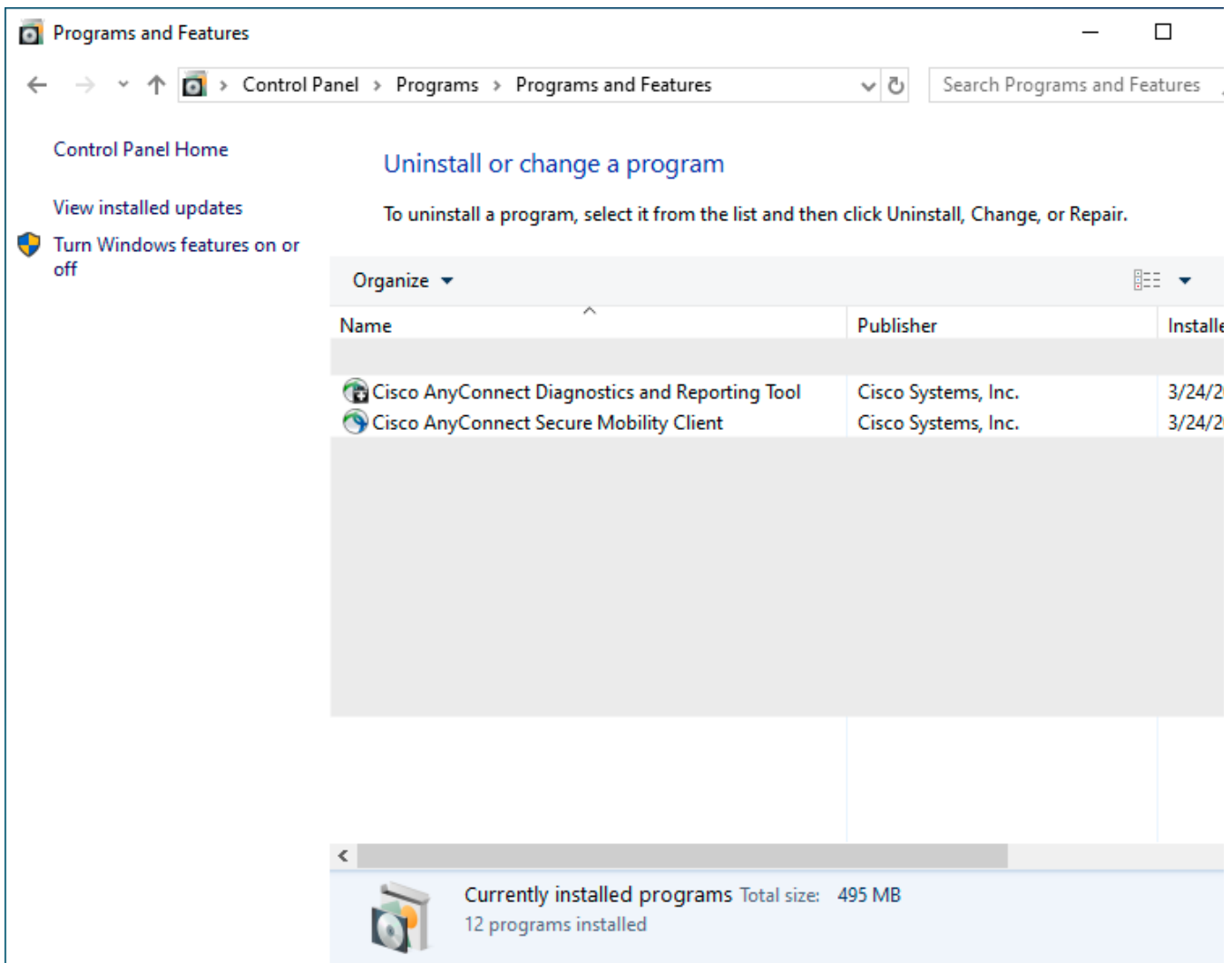
If all else fails, you may try uninstalling the Cisco Secure Client and removing associated program data. This usually isn't necessary, but may fix some problems.

- Go to **Control Panel > Uninstall a program**

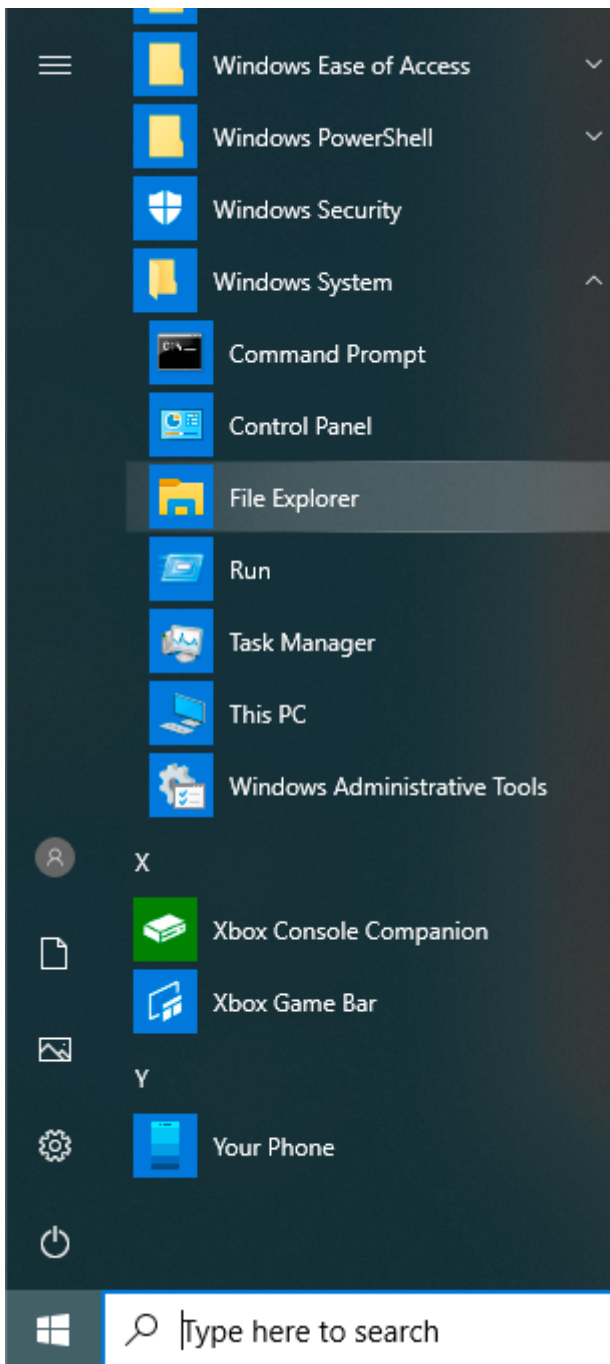




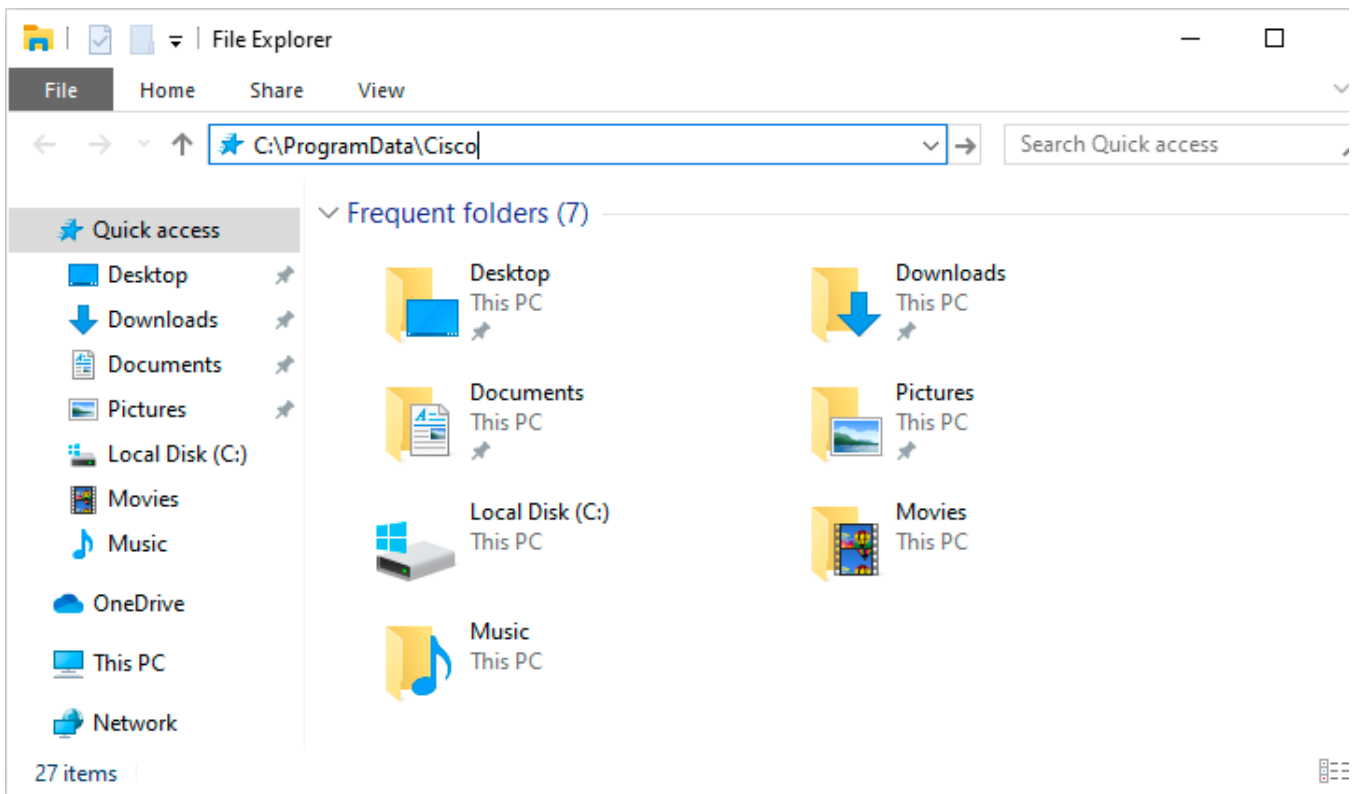
- Uninstall all **Cisco AnyConnect** applications



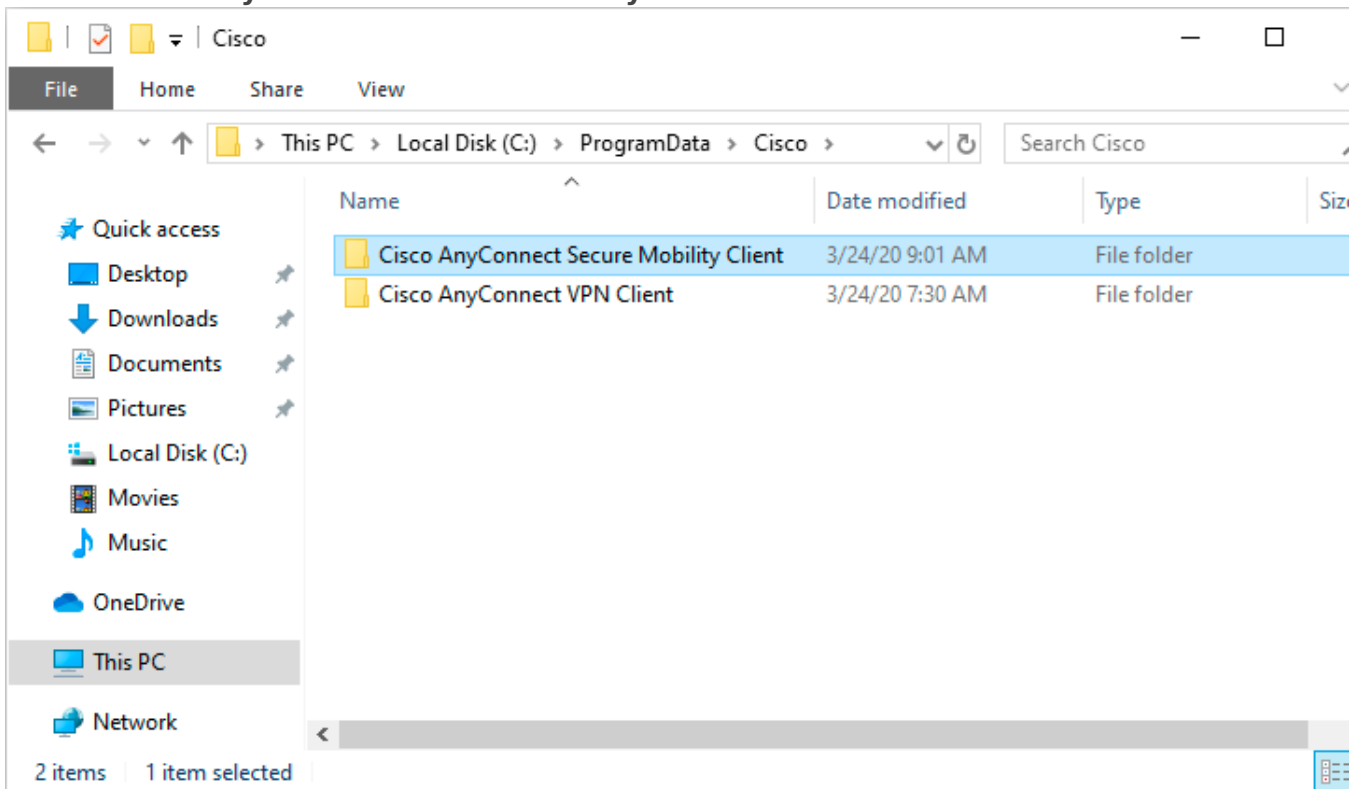
- Open **File Explorer**



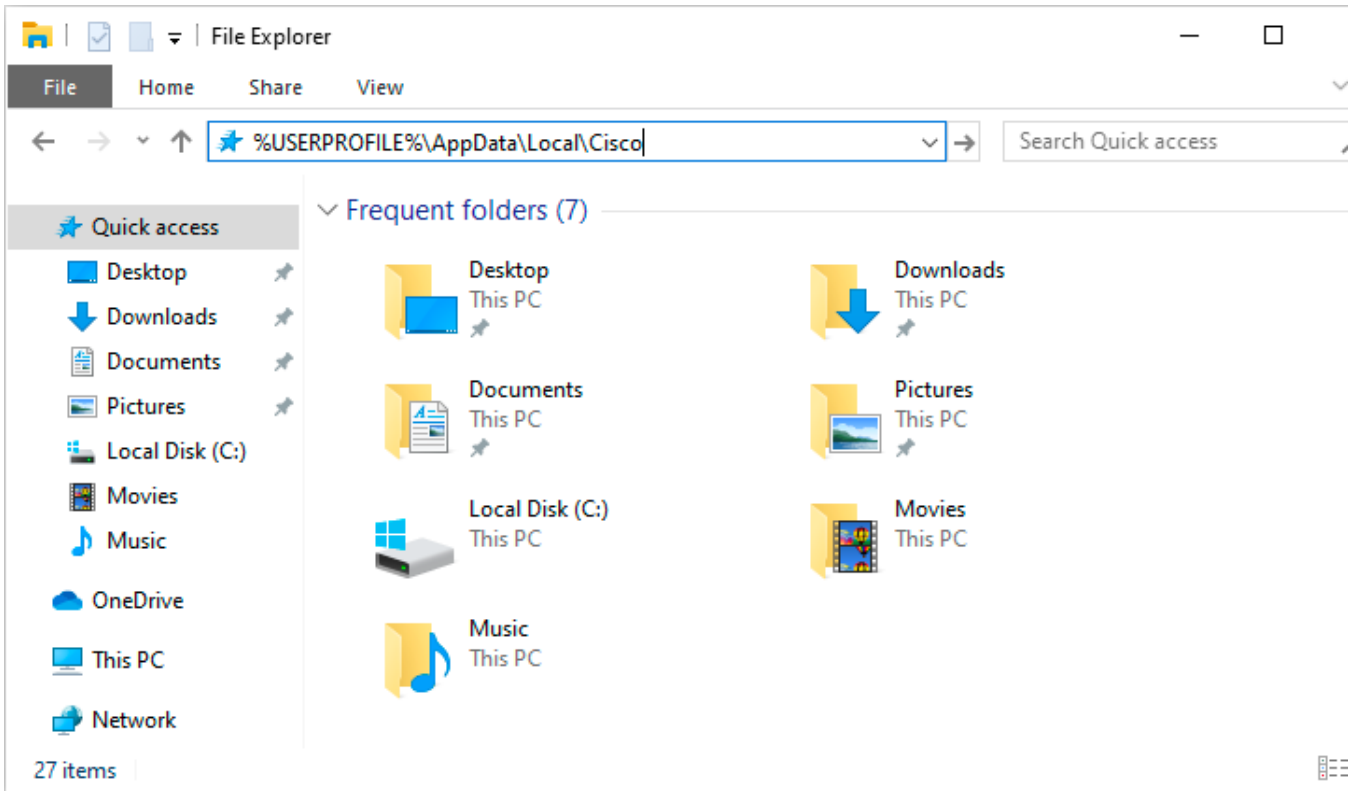
- In the address bar, enter: **C:\ProgramData\Cisco**



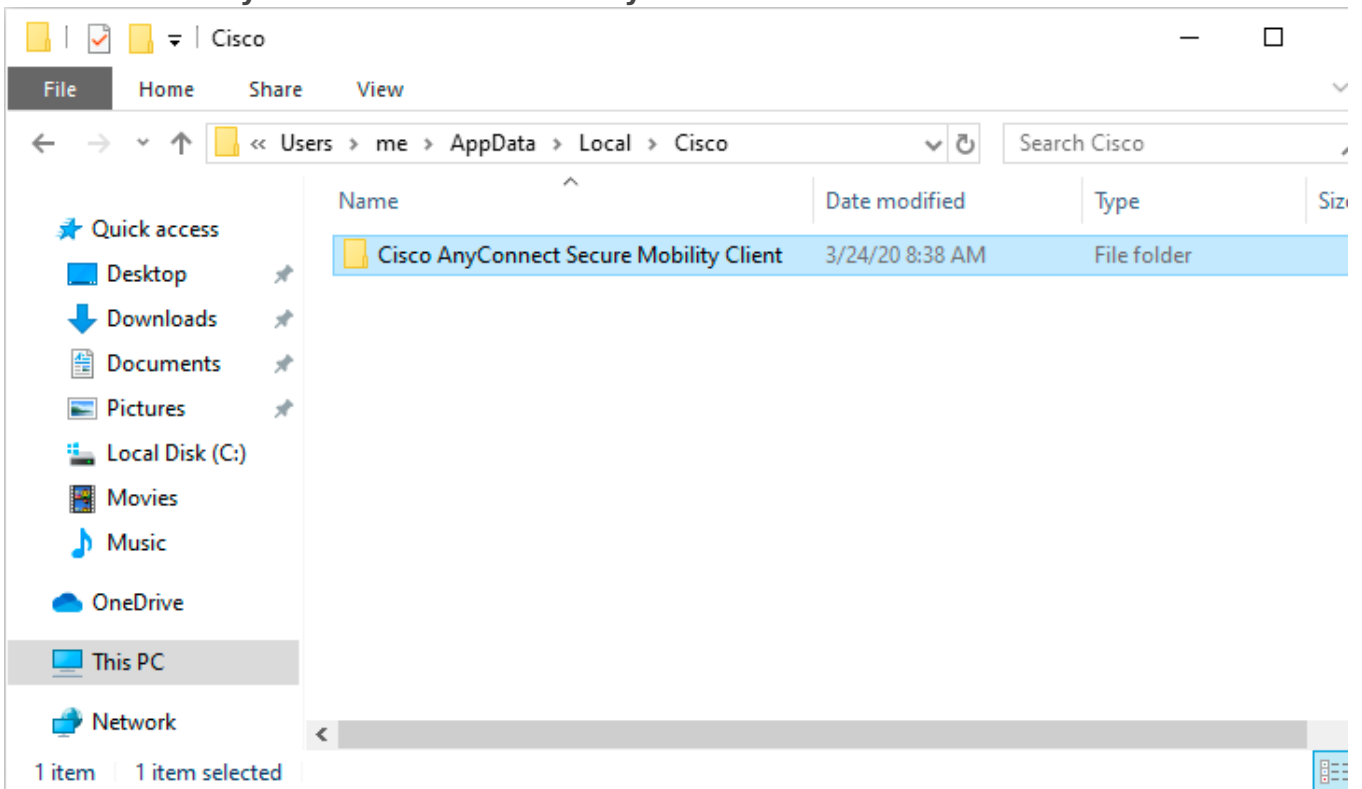
- Delete **Cisco AnyConnect Secure Mobility Client**



- In the address bar, enter: `%USERPROFILE%\AppData\Local\Cisco`



- Delete **Cisco AnyConnect Secure Mobility Client**



- Restart your computer
- Follow the steps for [connecting](#) to the VPN

Revision #16

Created 30 October 2023 17:46:45 by Douglas Hoffman

Updated 1 May 2025 19:48:55 by Douglas Hoffman