

TUTORIAL • BRING YOUR OWN AI • GEMINI

Connect Your Gemini to Trial Commander

The same Trial Commander connector that works with Claude and ChatGPT, added to the Gemini app as a custom app — so you can ask about your matters, deadlines and contacts from a normal Gemini conversation, on the web and on your phone.

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What this is, in one paragraph

Trial Commander speaks a standard language called **MCP** that lets an outside AI assistant use its tools securely. The Gemini app can add a *custom app* that speaks it. Once added, you sign in to Trial Commander once, approve the connection, and Gemini can look things up in your practice — *scoped to exactly what you can already see*, and recorded in your audit trail like everything else.

READ THIS FIRST – WHO CAN DO THIS TODAY

Google sets these conditions for custom apps in the Gemini app (Google’s help page “Connect & manage custom apps for Gemini Apps”, read 4 October 2026). You must sign in to the Gemini app with a **personal Google Account** — not a work or school (Google Workspace) account, which Google says is not supported “for now”; be **18 or over and in the US**; have **Keep Activity** turned on in Gemini (custom apps are unavailable while it is off); and use Gemini in **English**. If any of these is not true, the Custom apps option will not be there. Google, not Trial Commander, controls this. Unlike Claude and ChatGPT, Gemini has **no directory** to find Trial Commander in: entering the address below is the way in.

YOUR FIRM ADMINISTRATOR MUST ALLOW IT FIRST

Gemini is **not one of the AI tools Trial Commander recognises** (those are Claude, ChatGPT and Microsoft 365 Copilot). AI tools it does not recognise are off for every firm until a firm administrator turns on **Settings → MCP Access → Unrecognised AI tools**. Until then, the approval screen says “Your firm only allows AI tools Trial Commander recognises” and offers no Approve button. Gemini CLI, on your own computer, is the exception — see Part V.

WHAT YOU NEED BEFORE YOU START

A personal Google Account that meets Google’s conditions above, signed in to the Gemini app at gemini.google.com; your Trial Commander sign-in; your firm’s *Unrecognised AI tools* switch on; and about three minutes. The connector comes with every Trial Commander plan, at one of two levels.

Which connector your plan includes

PLAN	CONNECTOR	WHAT YOUR GEMINI CAN DO
Starter (free) · Bronze · Silver	Read-only	Find a matter, and read its deadlines, contacts, matter health and trial status. Five tools, up to 200 calls a month. It cannot change anything.
Gold · Platinum · Enterprise, and any trial	Working	Everything above, plus notes, communications, documents, time and billing — and, where you allow it, writing: adding deadlines and notes, logging time, drafting documents.

The level follows your firm's plan automatically; nobody reconnects when the plan changes.

Part I • Check it on the Trial Commander side

1. Open **Settings** → **Connect your AI** — every member of the firm's staff has this card. It tells you which connector level your firm has, shows the connector address with a **Copy** button, and has a **Gemini** tab with these steps in short.
2. **Settings** → **MCP Access** lists every active connection and lets you revoke any of them with one click. A firm administrator sees its card in Settings; everyone else opens it from the link at the foot of *Connect your AI*, and sees their own connections there.
3. If you are not a firm administrator, the firm's **Member connections** switch on the MCP Access page must be on for you to connect your own Gemini. It is on unless an administrator turned it off; ask your administrator if it is not.
4. For the Gemini app, a firm administrator must have turned on **Unrecognised AI tools** on the MCP Access page (the box above says why). Once it is on, the approval screen names the address Gemini is sending the approval to; check it is a Google address before you approve.
5. Every firm administrator is e-mailed whenever anyone in the firm approves a connection — who connected, which tool, the access granted and when (never a code or token) — so they can review or revoke it under Settings → MCP Access.

Part II • Add the custom app in Gemini

1. Go to gemini.google.com and sign in with your **personal** Google Account.
2. Open **Settings**, choose **Connected Apps**, then **Custom apps**.
3. Where it asks for the app's **MCP server URL**, enter exactly:
`https://app.trialcommander.com/api/mcp`
4. Click **Next**. Gemini reads the server and finds the sign-in on its own — Trial Commander supports the automatic registration Gemini looks for, so you should not need to type any credentials on this screen. (Google's page mentions optional credentials for servers that lack it; leave them blank.)

Part III • Sign in and approve

YOU WILL SEE	WHAT TO DO
A Trial Commander sign-in page	Sign in as you normally do, including your second factor if you have one. Gemini never sees your password.
A consent screen naming the app and the permission it is asking for	Read it. On a read-only plan the only permission offered is <i>read</i> . Approve.
Gemini again	The custom app is connected. It is now available in both the Gemini web app and the Gemini mobile app. Go back to Settings → Connect your AI in Trial Commander and press Test connection on the Gemini tab — it shows the connection with its date. It is also on the list at Settings → MCP Access .

Part IV • Confirm it worked

In a new Gemini conversation, ask: “*What deadlines do I have in the next two weeks?*” The answer should name your own matters. If Gemini asks to confirm before it changes anything, that is by design.

Part V • Gemini CLI, on your own computer

Gemini CLI is Google’s command-line assistant. It connects to the same connector, and because its sign-in comes back to an address on *your own computer* (`http://localhost`), it does not need the firm’s *Unrecognised AI tools* switch — the approval never leaves your machine. The approval screen says so: “Approving hands this connection to an application running on this computer.”

1. Add the server, either with the command

```
gemini mcp add --transport http trial-commander https://app.trialcommander.com/api/mcp
```

or by adding it to `~/.gemini/settings.json` under `mcpServers` with `"httpUrl": "https://app.trialcommander.com/api/mcp"`.

2. In Gemini CLI, run `/mcp auth trial-commander`. Your browser opens Trial Commander; sign in as you normally do and click **Approve**.
3. Ask Gemini CLI about your deadlines, as in Part IV.

Use a current version of Gemini CLI. Every member-connection rule above still applies, and the connection appears under Settings → MCP Access like any other.

Part VI • Gemini Enterprise (Google Workspace)

A firm that uses Gemini through **Gemini Enterprise** on Google Workspace cannot connect itself today. Gemini Enterprise adds a custom MCP server with a client ID and client secret that the server issues in

advance; Trial Commander does not offer a self-service way to create one. **Contact Trial Commander support** at support@trialcommander.com if your firm wants to connect Gemini Enterprise, and we will tell you what is possible for your firm.

The governance you should know

- **Scoped to your access.** Gemini can reach exactly the matters you can, and no others.
- **Every call is logged.** Who, which matter, when — in the same append-only audit trail as everything else.
- **Runs on your Google account.** It never draws on the firm's in-app AI allowance.
- **Revocable from both ends.** Settings → MCP Access revokes it on the Trial Commander side; Gemini's Connected Apps settings disconnect it from theirs. Disabling a user ends their connection with them.
- **Confidentiality is your judgment, per client — and it matters more here.** A connection moves matter content — client confidences — into an AI service the firm does not operate, and a *personal* Google Account is outside any Workspace administrator's controls. Before you connect, check what the Gemini app does with your conversations and whether its activity settings and terms fit your obligations on a given engagement; The Florida Bar's Ethics Opinion 24-1 is the place to start. The Administrator's Manual (Part VII) covers this in full.

Trouble? Quick answers

SYMPTOM	CAUSE & FIX
No Custom apps option under Connected Apps	One of Google's conditions is not met: you are signed in with a work or school account, you are under 18 or outside the US, Keep Activity is off, or Gemini is not set to English. Google, not Trial Commander, controls this. For a firm on Google Workspace, see Part VI.
The approval screen says your firm only allows AI tools Trial Commander recognises	The firm's Unrecognised AI tools switch is off, as it is for every firm until an administrator turns it on. Ask a firm administrator; it is under Settings → MCP Access.
Gemini says a Trial Commander tool is not part of the firm's plan	You are on the read-only connector and asked for something only the working connector does. The table above says which is which.
Gemini says the firm has used its calls for the month	The read-only connector includes 200 calls a calendar month. They are available again on the first.

What about Microsoft Copilot?

Not yet. Copilot does not let a person add a server by its address the way Claude, ChatGPT and Gemini do; it needs a packaged *agent*, published by us and approved by Microsoft. That is in preparation. When it is available it will appear in Copilot's own agent store, and this shelf will gain a guide for it.

Trial Commander is practice-management software. Nothing here is legal advice; the ethics questions are yours to decide.