

Federated Access for the CTSA Consortium

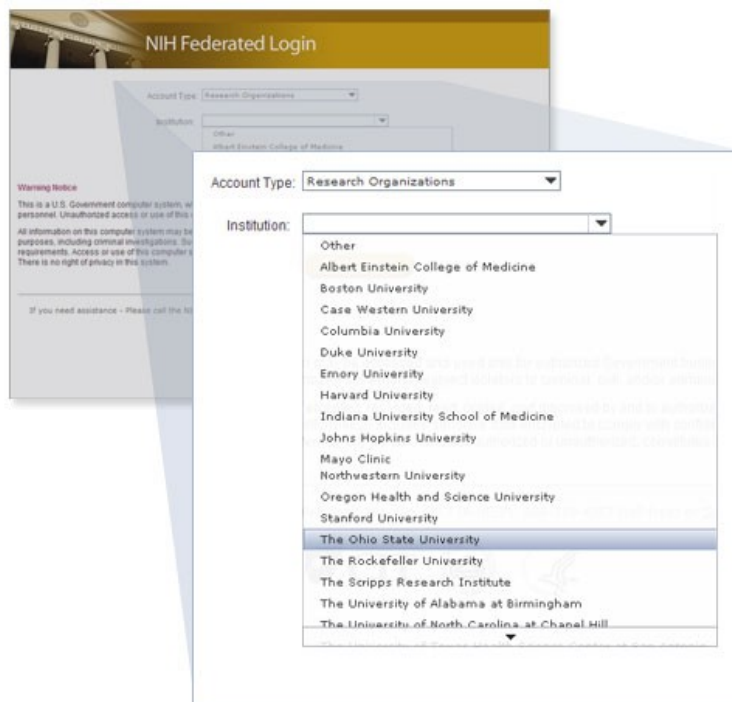
The National Center for Research Resources (NCRR) has changed the way the CTSA consortium accesses the CTSA Wiki, making it easier for members to login. NCRR is able to do this because NIH as a whole is moving to a "federated" model for providing access to its computer-based systems.

Under this model, federated consortium members are able to use their home institution username and password to access the CTSA wiki, instead of having to remember and use different login information.

Below is a fact sheet that includes additional information and possible changes that CTSA consortium members may experience as a result of federated access.

CTSA Federation Fact Sheet

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What is federated access?

Federated access allows Internet users to access multiple systems without maintaining multiple passwords and usernames. Education and research organizations that participate in the InCommon Federation can make password-protected resources available to anyone from another federated network.

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Why is the CTSA Program using federated access?

Federated access will make it easier for CTSA consortium members to login to the CTSA wiki. If your institution is federated with the NIH, you will be able to use the username and password from your home institution to access the CTSA wiki. This not only will reduce the number of usernames and passwords you have to remember, but also will reduce the time NCRR staff and contractors spend managing access to the CTSA wiki.

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Will the log in screen for the CTSA wiki be different?

Yes. Because federated access is based on individual institutional relationships with the NIH, you will need to select "Research Organizations" and then your home institution from a drop-down list every time you log into the CTSA wiki.

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Is my institution federated?

Go to www.incommonfederation.org/participants for a list of current InCommon Federation participants, and <https://nihlogin.nih.gov/NIHFederation/> for a list of institutions federated with the NIH.

Your institution may be on the InCommon list but not yet federated with NIH. If this is the case, please contact nihfederationrequest@mail.nih.gov for more information or talk to your institution's IT staff.

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What if my institution is not federated?

You can still access the wiki even if your institution is not federated. If you already have access to the wiki, you can continue using your existing username and password to login. If you cannot remember your password or have other questions, please contact the CTSA Help Desk, help@ctsaweb.org.

If you do not have a CTSA wiki account, please contact your CTSA Principal Investigator (PI) or administrator about participating in the CTSA Consortium.

Learn about becoming federated with NIH, at federatedidentity.nih.gov or email nihfederationrequest@mail.nih.gov.

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When will this change take place?

Federated access to the CTSA wiki began February 18, 2009 and continues as more institutions join the Federation.

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How can I start using federated access?

If your CTSA or partnering institution is federated with the NIH through InCommon, you are ready to use federated access.

If you already have a CTSA wiki account, go to the wiki, select "Research Organizations" and then select your home institution from the drop down menu. You then will be asked to complete a one-time mapping process to link your CTSA wiki login information to your home institution login.

If you cannot remember your CTSA wiki password or have trouble completing this process, contact the CTSA Help Desk at help@ctsaweb.org. Once the mapping is complete, you will be able to access the CTSA wiki with your home institution username and password.

If you do not have a CTSA wiki account, please contact your CTSA Principal Investigator (PI) or administrator about participating in the CTSA Consortium.

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Where can I find more information?

For general information on federated access, visit InCommon on the Web at www.incommonfederation.org.

Learn about becoming federated with NIH, at federatedidentity.nih.gov or email nihfederationrequest@mail.nih.gov.

Go to www.incommonfederation.org/participants for a list of current InCommon Federation participants, and <https://nihlogin.nih.gov/NIHFederation/> for a list of institutions federated with the NIH.

For answers or assistance related specifically to the CTSA wiki, please contact the CTSA Help Desk by e-mail at help@ctsaweb.org.

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