



OSF

A free, open-source platform for researchers to manage, archive, and share their entire research lifecycle, promoting openness and reproducibility.

<https://osf.io>

Overview

The Open Science Framework (OSF) is a free, open-source project management and collaboration tool developed and maintained by the non-profit Center for Open Science (COS) . Its mission is to increase the openness, integrity, and reproducibility of scientific research by supporting researchers throughout the entire research lifecycle, from planning and execution to reporting, archiving, and discovery .

Product Overview and Key Benefits OSF provides a centralized, structured repository for all research materials, including data, code, protocols, and manuscripts, which helps to reduce fragmentation and streamline access for research teams . It is designed to be discipline-agnostic, with a modular structure that supports diverse research methodologies . The platform is a dependable repository, with a preservation fund aimed at ensuring read access to hosted data for 50+ years .

Main Features and Capabilities

Project Management & Collaboration: Centralizes projects into a single workspace, allowing for the organization of files, folders, and sub-projects (components). It supports granular permission settings for collaborators .

Version Control: Automatically tracks changes to files and the project wiki, allowing users to track the evolution of their study and revert to earlier versions .

Preregistration & Registration: The Registration feature creates a permanent, time-stamped, read-only snapshot of a project, often used for preregistering hypotheses and analysis plans to increase transparency and rigor .

Data Archiving & Sharing: Provides secure cloud storage (OSF Storage) and the ability to connect to external storage add-ons. Every project and file can receive a unique, persistent URL (DOI or ARK for public projects) for citing and sharing .

Open API: Hosts an Open Application Programming Interface (API) that allows developers to automate workflows, integrate with other tools, and programmatically manage projects and data .

Project Analytics: Stores project usage information to measure impact, including view and download counts .

Target Users and Use Cases OSF is primarily targeted at **researchers, research teams, and students** across all disciplines. It is also used by **research institutions, funders, and publishers** to align with open science policies and manage institutional research output .

Use Cases: Research Project Management, Long-term Data Archiving and Sharing, Preregistration of Studies, Promoting Research Reproducibility and Transparency, and Inter-Institutional Research Collaboration .

Key Features

- Research Project Management
- Automated Version Control
- Preregistration and Registration
- Collaboration and Access Control
- Long-term Data Archiving (50+ years)
- Open API Access
- Project Analytics and Metrics
- Third-Party Storage Integrations

Pricing

Model: freemium

The core OSF platform is free-of-charge for all users. Additional data storage beyond the free allotment is available for a one-time fee based on storage tiers (e.g., \$500 for 0-100 GB, \$1,000 for 101-250 GB).

Target Company Size: startup, small, medium, enterprise

Integrations

Dropbox, Google Drive, GitHub, Mendeley, Zotero, Figshare, Protocols.io

Compliance & Certifications

SOC2, GDPR

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