

Overview + Q&A

Changes to OSF Projects



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OPEN SCIENCE

Strategic Rationale: OSF Transition



Sustainability

Build an OSF we can responsibly operate and sustain long term.



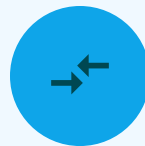
Focus

Concentrate OSF on the capabilities where it provides distinct value and makes impact.



Connection

Make OSF part of a connected ecosystem of complementary research infrastructure.



Transition

Help researchers navigate the changes with clear information about the changes and support to transition.

A more focused OSF

OSF is evolving from a broad project-based workspace toward a more focused role in helping researchers **document, connect, and share their research across the lifecycle.**



OSF aims to make research easier to understand, evaluate, reuse, and build on by connecting what was planned, produced, and found—even when those pieces live in different places.

Changes to OSF Workflows

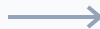


November 16, 2026

Creation of New Projects Disabled

No new projects or components can be created on the OSF.

Updates to existing projects and components is still available



February 19, 2027

Read-Only Status

All OSF projects (public and private) transitioned into an archived read-only state.

What is Not Changing

COS Mission & Values

COS mission, LOS direction, open source values, and commitment to supporting researchers.

Public Accessibility

Existing public accessibility continues to work as it does now, and we have no planned changes.

Search & Dashboards

OSF Search, institutional dashboard, and landing pages continue to work as they do now.

Preprints & Registrations

Preprints and Registrations are not affected and continue to function as they do now.

What This Means: Public Projects



Nov 16, 2026

New project creation

Any new public project or component must be created by this date.



Feb 19, 2027

Read-Only Transition

Public projects will become read-only. They can be deleted but not changed after this date. They remain editable until then.



Post-Transition

Permanent Archival

COS will not remove public project content. It remains on the OSF in a read-only state unless the project owner chooses to delete it.

Public Projects: Links & Connections



Persistent Links URLs & DOIs Retained

Public content remains available at the same URL, DOI, and view-only link.

Note: Inform us if moving content to set up redirects.



Secure Storage No Location Changes

There are no current plans to change where OSF files are stored. Your files remain secure in their existing locations.



Discoverability Remain Searchable

Public projects will still be findable via OSF Search and discoverable on institution pages.

What This Means: Private Projects & Add-ons



Private Projects Transition to Read-Only

Private projects will be read-only. Current users retain access, but no new users can be added. Projects can be deleted or made public.

Note: ~43% of OSF's 29M stored files are private.



Storage Add-ons No New Connections

Existing add-ons will be maintained, but content is not editable or movable through OSF. No new add-ons can be connected.

Note: Only 3% of OSF projects currently use storage add-ons.



Future Outlook 12-Month Notice

Private projects and add-ons are resource-intensive. We anticipate removing private projects but will provide substantial advance notice.

Note: Target timeline of at least 12 months' notice.

How to Prepare



Active / In Progress

If you want to move your content, see the help guide on [downloading files](#). If your project has a DOI or you wish to redirect a URL, please [follow the redirect process](#).



Completed / Archived

If your public project does not need further updates, we strongly recommend that you take no action. COS will continue to manage your content. This ensures that any DOI or URL you shared will always direct to the correct file.



IRB / DMP

Contact your institutional librarian. Public OSF projects used to share a DMSP will be maintained. If you migrate, coordinate with contributors to avoid duplicates.



Repositories

Check with your institution first. Many universities host specific infrastructure for hosting papers, datasets, and other materials which may be your best option. [Selection Guide](#).



Links & Cited Work

Public projects will remain indefinitely on OSF as a read-only public record.

Existing anonymous links remain active. However, you cannot create new private view-only links starting Feb 19, 2027. Consider [Zenodo](#) for future anonymization.



OS Courses

If you use OSF to teach open science, you can continue to do so. We have developed specialized [guidance and adjustments](#) to support instructors.

Resources & Support



Transition Overview

[Overview of Changes](#)

[Why COS is making the Changes to OSF](#)



Transition Guides

[Transition Support Guides](#)

[Details of OSF changes](#)

[What should you do with your content](#)

[Funder & Institutional Requirements](#)



FAQs & Ongoing Support

[Transition FAQs](#)

Email: support@cos.io



OSF Strategy & Vision

[Lifecycle Open Science](#)

[OSF Product Direction](#)

OSF Future: Connected Lifecycle Open Science

OSF will help researchers create a clearer, more connected record of their research—from what they planned to what they produced and ultimately reported.



1. Plan & Document

Make prospective study planning easier with:

- Guided workflows
- Templates and prompts
- Community-developed standards
- Registrations as a durable record



2. Connect Research

Link study plans to:

- Data, Code, & Materials
- Preprints & Publications
- Other research outputs

—hosted across any services or providers.



3. Report Outcomes

Structured outcomes:

- Report against study plan
- Record deviations and changes
- Connect what was found



4. Discover & Understand

Make connected records:

- Easier to find & understand
- Easier to evaluate & reuse

Through stronger metadata, persistent links, and clearer relationships.

OSF will work alongside complementary open infrastructure—not try to provide every capability itself.

Q&A

The webinar recording, as well as answers to questions are are not able to get to today, will be sent to registrants within one week of today's session.

Email support@osf.io with additional questions and / or transition support needs.



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