



Resources:

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Question? **Contact**
support@osf.io

OSF Project Changes

OSF is phasing out the OSF Projects workflow as an active collaboration and storage workspace between November 2026 and February 2027. Existing project content will remain accessible according to current permissions, but OSF Projects will no longer support new project creation or ongoing editing after the transition.

No New Projects or Components

Starting November 16, 2026, no new OSF Projects or child components can be created. Existing Projects can still be edited until February 19, 2027.

OSF Projects Become Read-Only

After February 19, 2027, existing public and private OSF Projects will enter a read-only state. Users will no longer be able to add, edit, or update project content.

Access and Links Continue

Existing projects will remain accessible according to current permissions. Public project URLs and DOI identifiers will continue to resolve. Users can still view, [download](#), or delete projects after they become read-only.

Common OSF Project Workflows: Impact and Recommended Options

STUDY OUTPUTS: DATA, MATERIALS, AND CODE

What changes: OSF will no longer function as a general repository for sharing new data, materials, code, or supplements through projects. Project content already on OSF will remain available according to existing permissions, but researchers will not be able to add, edit, or update those materials through OSF after projects become read-only.

Recommend: For future sharing, researchers should choose an appropriate repository based on output type, discipline, access needs, file size and format, documentation requirements, and funder or publisher requirements ([see our guidance](#)). Options may include generalist repositories such as Dataverse, Figshare, Zenodo, or Dryad; discipline-specific or specialized repositories such as ICPSR, QDR, or Vivli; institutional repositories; and code platforms such as GitHub, GitLab, or Codeberg. Where possible, [link outputs back to the related OSF registration](#) or [preprint](#).

STUDY MANAGEMENT / COLLABORATION

What changes: OSF will no longer support active project management, collaboration, or shared working-space workflows.

Recommend: For ongoing research project management, use an institution-supported project management, collaboration, or storage tool. STAPLE may be a good option for some research workflows because it is specifically geared toward scientific research workflows. For materials that should be shared publicly, choose an appropriate repository, such as a generalist, disciplinary, or institutional repository.

ELECTRONIC LAB NOTEBOOKS

What changes: OSF will no longer support lab-notebook-style workflows or ongoing lab documentation.

Recommend: For active lab notebook work, use an electronic lab notebook tool that fits the researcher's discipline, data type, security needs, compliance requirements, collaboration preferences, technology needs, and budget. Researchers should check whether their institution provides access to an ELN or has specific ELN policies.

PRIVATE PROJECTS

What changes: Private OSF Projects will become read-only after February 19, 2027. Users with existing permissions will continue to have access, but they will no longer be able to add, edit, or update project content after that date. COS anticipates removing private project storage in the future and intends to provide substantial advance notice before any further change.

Recommend: Review whether each private project is complete or ongoing. If the project is complete and does not need future updates, users may not need to move it, but should review files, metadata, and organization before projects become read-only. If the project is ongoing, needs new collaborators, or requires continued file updates, move the work to another appropriate repository, storage provider, or workflow tool. If the content should be publicly available, project administrators can [make the project public](#).

COURSE MANAGEMENT AND PEDAGOGICAL MATERIALS SHARING

What changes: OSF will no longer support active course-management or teaching-material workspaces.

Recommend: For active course workflows, use an institution-supported learning, course-management, collaboration, or storage tool. For open educational resources or public teaching materials, check whether the institution has a repository for educational materials, or consider an OER-focused platform such as OER Commons. Not all research repositories are appropriate for open educational resources, so researchers should check repository guidelines before depositing teaching materials.

DATA MANAGEMENT AND SHARING PLANS

What changes: OSF will no longer be a workspace for storing or sharing data management and sharing plans through projects.

Recommend: Use tools designed for DMP/DMSP documentation and sharing, such as DMPTool or DMPOnline, which allow DMPs to be deposited and assigned DOIs. Some repositories, including Zenodo, may also accept data management and sharing plans.

Workflows That May Need Additional Guidance

MANAGING DATA ACCESS USING PROJECT AND REGISTRY WORKFLOW

What changes: Managing access to research data remains a valid need, but OSF will no longer support using OSF Projects to actively store, update, or manage research data after projects become read-only.

Recommend: Continue using OSF registration workflows where they help document study plans or related research records. For data storage and access management, choose a repository or system suited to the data type, sensitivity, access restrictions, and funder or publisher requirements. Where appropriate, link the data location back to the related OSF registration.

MIXED HIERARCHIES

What changes: Projects with public parent components and private child components, or the reverse, will remain subject to existing permissions, but all components will become read-only after February 19, 2027. If researchers move content elsewhere, OSF-style component hierarchies and permission structures may not translate cleanly to other repositories or platforms.

Recommend: Review these cases individually before advising a researcher. If content is moved, related materials may need to be recreated, documented, or linked in the new destination so the relationship among components remains clear.

Workflows With No Change

STUDY PLANS

No change. Continue using OSF registrations and relevant community templates for registering study plans.

SYSTEMATIC REVIEWS

No change. Continue using OSF registration templates for systematic review plans.

SCOPING REVIEWS

No change. Continue using OSF registration templates for scoping review plans.

EMBARGOED REGISTRATIONS

No change. Continue using OSF Registrations when researchers need an embargoed study plan.

PREPRINTS

No change. Continue using the relevant community-operated OSF preprint service.

POSTPRINTS

No change. Continue using the relevant community-operated OSF preprint service.

Questions?

For questions about OSF changes, transition timelines, or how to advise researchers in your community, [visit our help guides](#) or reach out to support@osf.io.