

Oxford Academic Platform: Journals Migration Information

The migration of journals content to the new Oxford Academic platform will begin in November 2016, with all journals scheduled to have migrated by January 2017. Online products will begin to migrate thereafter. In preparation for this we have carried out a detailed exploration of where the migration process may impact our institutional customers to ensure you are fully informed about what actions you will need to take and when.

The following document outlines the required updates our institutional customers will need to make in advance of migration to the new Oxford Academic platform. The main activities that will be required relate to authentication and access to the new platform, for example, updating proxy servers. Requirements differ based on current set up and as such this document is organized into the following sections:

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We are asking our institutional customers to make any updates to proxy servers and other access methods during October 2016, ready for the beginning of the migration period. All updates should be completed by the end of the first week of November.

Please note that you will NOT be able to access the new Oxford Academic platform as a result of these updates, prior to the migration of the first journal content. If your institution offers a starting menu based on your current configuration file, academic.oup.com may appear in your menu once this update has been made but before journal content has been migrated. Any user trying to access the new platform in advance of migration will be prevented from accessing the new platform by being asked to provide a username and password to proceed.

This document is designed to provide a step by step guide of the actions you need to take in preparation for migration, but until the new platform is live in November you will not be able to access the site to confirm your access settings. Instead, you will be directed to a “401” not authorized response. Please find more information about the migration schedule below.

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We will also ask that updates are made in January 2017 to complete the transition when all journals content is live on the new platform, by which point you will have been able to confirm your access settings

Migration overview

How will the journals migration period work? Will we experience a period of dual running?

Our journals will be the first of our products to be hosted on the new platform and will migrate in two phases. The first set of journals will migrate on 14 November with the rest of the journals scheduled to follow on 30 November, so there will be a short period of dual running. We are migrating in this way in order to ensure the shortest possible period of dual running for customers, while maintaining the quality of the new platform. All preparatory actions must be completed by the end of the first week of November to ensure a smooth transition to the Oxford Academic platform.

The Oxford Academic platform will officially go live in January 2017, when the existing Oxford Journals platform is retired and an updated proxy server configuration file is provided, giving access only to the new platform. Online products will begin to migrate thereafter.

As part of the migration process, we will be updating our My Account service. This aspect of the platform may experience some disruption as we transition. Please see the Oxford Academic Account section of this document for further information.

New URLs

URLs will change when we move to the new digital platform. We can now confirm the new Oxford Academic URL structure will be **https://academic.oup.com**. For individual journals, the structure will be **https://academic.oup.com/journal code**. Journal codes will be the same as they are on the current site, e.g. brain.oxfordjournals.org will become academic.oup.com/brain

Please note that the new platform will be hosted on **https**, a secure communication protocol on the web. There are more details about this below.

URL Redirects

The existing platform will redirect to the new platform once journals migrate. OUP and our hosting partners, Silverchair, will put in place a comprehensive set of redirects which will seamlessly take users from the old domain to the new and will persist for the lifetime of the platform to avoid any interruption in service. Redirects will be mapped like-for-like for the majority of pages, but there may instances where this is not possible.

If you come across a page without a direct redirect please let us know via our [Customer Services](#) team. In order to maximize performance we would advise that you update your links to point to the new URL structure after migration. We will send a reminder about making such updates after the migration is complete.

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Migration to HTTPS

The new platform will be hosted on https, a secure protocol on the web. As a result, institutional customers using proxy server services for access to OUP's digital content will need to update their Oxford stanzas to ensure uninterrupted service during and after migration.

Should you have any concerns regarding your institutions ability to access content via a platform using HTTPS please do not hesitate to get in contact with our [Customer Services](#) team. You can do this by replying to the email you received linking to this document.

Authentication and Access Control

Authentication methods

The implementation of the Oxford Academic platform will require some updates to how user access is authenticated, in order to ensure a seamless transition.

The new platform will support institutional user authentication via the following methods:

- IP recognition
- Federated access (i.e. Shibboleth or OpenAthens)

Our institutional customers will not need to do anything to ensure that these user authentication methods continue to work. However, customers using proxy servers will need to update them in both October and January to ensure seamless access to Oxford Academic journals content. For more information on this, please see below regarding existing proxy server updates.

Will there be changes to access control?

There will be no visible changes to access control on the Oxford Academic platform so librarians will not be required to take action regarding this.

Proxy Configurations

We recommend that our institutional customers update proxy configurations once in October, to provide access to both the existing platform and the new Oxford Academic platform, and then again in January when the existing Oxford Journals platform is retired.

All content hosted on the Oxford Academic platform will only be accessible via HTTPS.

In order for institutions to access the platform via a proxy service, the platform needs to recognize users as part of the institution using that proxy service. For this to be successful, you will be required to do one of the following:

1. Allow browsers to pass through the proxy server transparently
2. Ensure you have a current wildcard SSL certificate, if your institution uses proxy by hostname

This will prevent users from receiving error messages about security as browser security is based on the hostname the browser believes it is attempting to reach, so, in order for the browser not to

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reject access, the proxy server must use its own certificate in any communication between the browser and itself.

EZproxy

In preparation for migration to the new Oxford Academic platform please update your OUP EZProxy configuration file. The new stanza has been loaded on the [OCLC Database Stanzas page](#). It is also available on our [help centre](#). This new file includes stanzas for both the existing platform and the new Oxford Academic platform to ensure your access is not disrupted during the migration.

Please append your EZproxy stem to create a starting point URL and update the section highlighted in yellow in line with your institutions server URL, for example:

<https://library.proxy.server/login?url=https://academic.oup.com>

If your institution uses a proxy by hostname, you may need an additional port to support the move to HTTPS in order to avoid users experiencing certificate errors in their browsers.

By January 2017, all journals content will be live on the new Oxford Academic platform and the existing Oxford Journals platform will be retired. At that time, OUP will provide a new stanza which removes the lines for the former platform. Information about the update will sent via email and be posted to the EZproxy user group in the future.

For technical support, please contact a member of our customer services team by replying to the email you received linking to this document.

To find out more about EZProxy, please click [here](#).

WAM Proxy

In order to access Oxford Journals content during and after migration, WAM proxy users will need to add the new Oxford Academic platform URL (<https://academic.oup.com/>) to proxy servers.

Please ensure you have the correct certificates in place to cover this new hostname and ensure access is not disrupted. The Oxford Academic platform will use a single domain, academic.oup.com/journal code (see above section on URLs for more information).

Other proxy servers

The Oxford Academic platform is a standard based https web site and so should require little to no modification of your proxy. For technical support, or if your institution uses an alternative proxy server to those listed above, please contact our Customer Services team for further support by replying to the email you received linking to this document.

Testing

In preparation for migration to the new platform we have worked in partnership with a selection of our institutional customers to ensure the required proxy updates have been tested and that the instructions provided are as clear and concise as possible to ensure a smooth migration to the new platform.

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We are asking our institutional customers to make any updates to proxy servers during October 2016, ready for the beginning of the migration period. All updates should be completed by the first week of November.

Shibboleth Access

Shibboleth Access will be available as soon as content is live on the new platform. This will be delivered through eduGAIN, and will cover the following federations:

- *Armenia (AFIRE)*
- *Australia (AAF)*
- *Austria (ACOnet Identity Federation)*
- *Belgium (Belnet Federation)*
- *Brazil (CaFe)*
- *Canada (Canadian Access Federation)*
- *Chile (COFRe)*
- *Colombia (COLFIRE)*
- *Croatia (AAI@EduHr)*
- *Czech Republic (eduID.cz)*
- *Denmark (WAYF)*
- *Ecuador (MINGA)*
- *Estonia (TAAT)*
- *Finland (HAKA)*
- *France (Fédération Education-Recherche)*
- *Georgia (Grena Identity Federation)*
- *Germany (DFN AAI)*
- *Greece (GRNET)*
- *Hungary (eduId.hu)*
- *Ireland (Edugate)*
- *Israel (IUCC Identity Federation)*
- *Italy (IDEM)*
- *Japan (GakuNin)*
- *Latvia (LAIFE)*
- *Lithuania (LITNET FEDI)*
- *Luxembourg (eduID Luxembourg)*
- *Moldova (LEAF)*
- *Norway (FEIDE)*
- *Poland (PIONIER.Id)*
- *Portugal (RCTSaai)*
- *Slovenia (ArnesAAI Slovenska izobraževalno raziskovalna federacija)*
- *Spain (SIR)*
- *Sweden (SWAMID)*
- *Switzerland (SWITCHaai)*
- *The Netherlands (SURFconext)*

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- *US (InCommon)*
- *Ukraine (PEANO)*
- *UK (UK Federation)]*

Current users of Shibboleth will not experience any change in user journey as a result of the migration, however, for a short period during the dual running period, your users will be required to create Shibboleth sessions on each platform independently. Institutions currently using Athens access will need to look for the Athens link in the Shibboleth federations.

For institutions which use WAYFless URLs, the construction of the URL will be changing to align to our new platform. During the dual running period, you will have links that will be configured to the platform where the target journal is hosted. As above, for a short time during the dual running period, your users will be required to create a new Shibboleth session in the situation where they switch to a journal that is hosted on the other platform. The exact changes will be available at launch.

OpenAthens to be replaced by Shibboleth

Access to the Oxford Academic platform via OpenAthens will be replaced by access via Shibboleth. OpenAthens Organisation ID will be replaced by Shibboleth Organisation and Entity ID.

Our institutional customers will not need to take any action to facilitate this transition to Shibboleth but, in some cases, may be contacted directly to help us to identify their Shibboleth credentials.

Oxford Academic Account

As part of the migration of our journals content to the new Oxford Academic platform, we will also be migrating existing My Accounts to the new platform. As part of this process we will be changing the name of My Account to Oxford Academic Account.

What does this mean for subscribers?

This means that if you have multiple subscriptions to OUP journals, you may be required to access different journals via two different platforms for a short period of time.

What will this mean for Oxford Academic Account users?

Users are not expected to experience any interruption to their My Account/Oxford Academic Account access during this migration. This is because all existing and newly created Oxford Academic Account profiles and settings will be migrated to the new platform regularly, and users will automatically be directed to the correct platform when they are searching for content.

There will be a short period of time where selected functionality will be disabled to ensure our customer data is up-to-date upon launch on the new platform. The majority of this functionality will be restored upon migration to the new Oxford Academic account, although we will be retiring some of our less used features.

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Do I need to do anything differently?

Throughout the migration phase we will be synchronising data on a regular basis. However, in order to ensure our data is as up-to-date as possible we ask that users only make urgent changes to their accounts during this time. If you do wish to make updates to your account settings we recommend that you replicate any changes made across both the old and new Oxford Academic Account to minimise any possible inconsistencies.

During this transition period will I be able to access my usage data?

Usage statistic reports will continue to be available via My Account, and will also be available on Oxford Academic Account from launch. Both sites will provide a consolidated set of statistics for all journals used on all platforms, as such we recommend that you access your statistics via Oxford Academic Account on the new platform during the migration period.

Existing SUSHI accounts will be de-activated and users will have to re-register for new account credentials. To obtain consolidated usage reports via SUSHI, you will need to set up a new SUSHI connection using your new Oxford Academic Account identifier. You can set up your new SUSHI connection by visiting our [usage](#) homepage, and following the 'Counter 4 for journals' link.

If some of my journals have migrated to the new platform, will I need to run separate usage reports?

No. Whichever route you choose to access usage reports (old or new platform My Account), you will be taken to the same reporting portal where consolidated statistics for both platforms will be presented.

MARC records and KBART records

The new Oxford Academic platform will have both MARC and KBART records available at launch.

Do I need to re-download my MARC and/or KBART records in preparation for migration?

New MARC records and KBART files will be available ahead of the January 2017 launch and will need to be downloaded to ensure access to content on the new Oxford Academic platform. Please note that the URLs contained within these files will not be live until the November 2016 migration. DOIs will continue to resolve as normal throughout the migration period, and a full programme of journal and article level redirects will be implemented to ensure access to content is not disrupted.

Library vendor systems, Knowledgebases, and OpenURLs

As part of the migration to the new Oxford Academic platform we are partnering with library vendors to ensure they are kept fully up-to-date both on progress and requirements and can update their knowledgebases appropriately. We are delivering tailored communications based on their requirements and they will receive a guide walking them through any updates they need to take forward in preparation for migration.

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Further information

Who can I contact if I need technical support to implement the required changes in preparation for migration?

For technical support regarding any of the processes outlined above, please contact a member of our customer services team by replying to the email you received linking to this document.