Federated Identity

I AM OHIO

Enable education, research, and collaboration while improving IT security, privacy, and efficiency

Benefits

For Students:

- A single user id and password to remember
- Easy access to educational resources across Ohio and the world
- Personal information is protected and secure

For Educators & Researchers

- Focus on creating learning and research tools, not on IT
- Control access to restricted content
- Comply with US Federal regulations (FERPA, HIPAA, etc.)
- Streamline access to Federal grant systems (NIH, NSF, etc.)

For IT Staff

- Eliminate redundant systems and data
- Deliver stronger, more secure identity and access management
- Reduce access-related support costs

Use Cases

Shared wireless access:

- Students, faculty and staff can get Internet access not only at their own campus, but when visiting other member institutions – simply by opening their laptop

Example: Two institutions share a campus and a wireless network, but provide appropriate services to their own users based on identity.

Collaborative research:

- Authorized researchers from multiple institutions can securely share access to systems and data sources – without an extra credentialing and authentication process

Example: Cancer researchers from across the state share study data with each other, while preventing unauthorized access and complying with federal regulations.

Web single-sign on:

- Users can easily move between applications at their own institution or at other member institutions – using a single login

Example: A consortium of colleges and universities provides a unified web portal for prospective students to select the 'best fit' academic program from among all the members of the consortium.

What is Federated Identity?

Federated Identity makes it possible for students and faculty to access resources at multiple campuses through a single account.

Your existing academic login becomes a single, trusted, enabling passport to education, research, and collaboration opportunities throughout Ohio.

- **Single ID** to use and remember
- **Trusted** to protect privacy and security
- **Enabling** access to academic services
- **Passport** that's accepted throughout the University System of Ohio
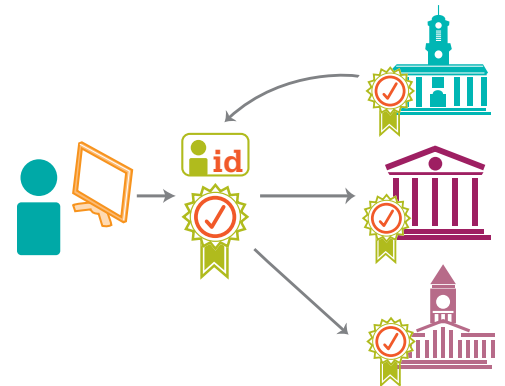
By defining standards for access, you can now use your existing login to get services from other members of the federation.

Contact

For more information on the Federated Identity program, please contact:

Mark Beadles
Program Manager, Federated Identity
OARnet
614.292.8217 • mbeadles@oar.net

Mailing List

Sign-up for the **I Am Ohio** Mailing List by registering at www.oar.net/iamohio/contact

Ohio | OARnet

1224 Kinnear Road • Columbus, Ohio 43212
614-292-9191 • **www.oar.net**

Federated Identity Glossary

Product	Product Description
Attribute	A single piece of user data (such as name, affiliation, study branch, etc.) needed to make authorization decisions. Some attributes are general; others are personal. Some combination of attributes defines a unique individual.
Attribute Release Policy (ARP)	Defines which attributes are going to be released to a requesting resource. It is a mechanism to implement privacy and data protection.
Certificate	A form of digital credential which may be used for authentication. More formally, a digital certificate is a cryptographically signed, digital representation of user or device attributes that binds a key to an identity. A unique certificate attached to a public key provides evidence that the key has not been compromised. A certificate is issued and signed by a certificate authority. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Public_key_certificate]
Discovery Service	A service that helps you locate your "home" IdP. This discovery service is able to read federation metadata and generate a web page that enables you to select the appropriate IdP.
Federated Identity	The management of identity information between members of a federation, according to agreed-upon standards and conventions. [http://www.incommon.org/fedbasics.html]
Federation	An Identity Federation is an organization of institutions that agree on a common set of principles in order to share information as a collection of equals.
Federation Member	An individual institution (such as a university, library, etc.) that agrees to participate in an Identity Federation.
Federation Operator	An entity that runs the Federation on a day-to-day basis and maintains standards, metadata, operational agreements, etc.
Identity	Information about who you are. A set of data that is kept about an individual. May include data such as a user name and password, groups, roles, privileges or even personal information such as employment and health records. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Digital_identity]
Identity Provider (IdP)	Someone who stores your identity information and presents it to others. A campus or other organization that manages and operates an identity management system and offers information about members of its community to other InCommon participants; a trusted party that can be relied upon by users and servers for authentication. Also "Issuer."
Level of Assurance (LOA)	How sure we can be that you are who you say you are? How much confidence there is that credential presented is in the possession of the person whose identity is being asserted? A federation member must undergo an assurance audit to be allowed to grant high Levels of Assurance to its users. [http://www.educause.edu/Resources/AppropriateAccessLevelsofAssur/162629]
Metadata	Data or information about data. This is the information that is necessary for one party to communicate with the other. A formal description of how federation components agree to communicate. In SAML there is metadata about the IdP and metadata about the SP. [http://www.incommon.org/metadata.html]
SAML	Security Assertion Markup Language. Specified by the OASIS Security Services Technical Committee, SAML is a standard to construct, exchange, and interpret information between an IdP and an SP. [www.oasis-open.org/committees/security/]
Service Provider (SP)	Someone who provides you with a "service" such as a web site, online community, or research tool. A campus, department, or other organization that makes online resources available to users based in part on information about them that it receives from other Federation participants. Also "Relying Party" (RP).
Shibboleth	Developed by Internet2, it is a standards-based, open source software package for federated identity-based authentication and authorization infrastructure based on SAML web single sign-on across organizational boundaries such as in an identity federation. [http://shibboleth.internet2.edu]
User	The person who accesses the online services available in a federation. Also "subject" or "principal."