# Compare UI Supported Storage and Sharing Options (last updated September 2024)

Not sure which type of storage is best for you? Review all the available storage solutions available with this quick summary chart. All services listed support UI institutional data storage. **PLEASE NOTE:** Consumer-based storage services (e.g. Dropbox, Google Drive, Apple iCloud, etc.) are only available for Level I data.

| | Shared Drive (Files@Iowa) | Home Drives (Files@Iowa) | OneDrive for Business (Office 365) | Large Scale Storage (LSS) | Research Data Storage Service (RDSS) | Iowa Health Data Resource (IHDR) data enclave | SharePoint Online (Office 365) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Description of Service** | Highly available file storage service available for departments/units. | Highly available file storage service available for individuals. 25 GB is provided. | Cloud based file storage and collaboration. 1 TB for free. | For researchers and faculty who have a lot of data but do not need high availability (HA) storage. Also available on HPC systems. 5 TB for free[†]. | For faculty researchers who have large amounts of data (basic data storage, not available on HPC systems). 5 TB for free[†]. | A secure data storage service for researchers to analyze data from University of Iowa Health Care on the Argon and Interactive Data Analytics Service (IDAS) high-performance computing systems. | Cloud-based file storage and collaboration service available for colleges/departments/units. 1TB default site storage and up to 25TB based on need. |
| **Who is this for?** | Departments, inter-departmental work groups. | All faculty, staff, students. | All faculty, staff, students. | Faculty, researchers. | Faculty, researchers and their labs. | Faculty, staff, researchers and their labs. | Colleges, Departments, Labs, Inter-departmental workgroups. |
| **Cost** | 1 GB per FTE is provided. Pay for service after that: $.08/GB/month. | Free. | Free. | 5 TB for free[†]. $35/TB per year for each copy. | 5 TB for free[†]. Pay for service after that: $270/TB/year | Free. | Free. |
| **Safe for UI data levels*** | I, II, & III | I, II, & III | I, II, & III | I & II | I, II, & III | Data generated by University of Iowa Health Care | I, II, & III |
| **Snapshots/Shadow Copy** | 30 days | 30 days | Versioning | 30 days | 30 days | 30 days | Versioning |
| **Replication between Data Centers** | Yes | Yes | Yes | Optional | Yes | No | Yes |
| **Backups** | 6 months | 6 months | 90 days | Replication | Replication | N/A | 90 days |
| **Access Method** | CIFS/SMB | CIFS/SMB | Browser, local data sync, or mobile app | NFS, CIFS/SMB | NFS, CIFS/SMB | CIFS/SMB from Argon and IDAS *only* | Browser, local data sync, or mobile app |
| **Access from anywhere?** | Available from work or home via the VPN. | Available from work or home via the VPN. | Available from anywhere via browser or local data sync. | Available from work or home via the VPN. | Available from work or home via the VPN. | Accessible via Argon & IDAS only (which are available from work or home via the VPN). | Available from anywhere via browser, local sync or mobile app. |
| **Multi-factor Authentication (MFA)** | Required for VPN | Required for VPN | Required for Office 365 | Required for VPN | Required for VPN | Required for VPN | Required for Office 365 |
| **How do I get this?** | By request to its-ecollaboration@uiowa.edu | Automatically provisioned. Available as a mapped drive H: | Login to Office 365 and click on the OneDrive tile. | Fill out LSS request form | Fill out RDSS request form | By request to IHDRDataEnclave@healthcare.uiowa.edu | Fill out SharePoint request form |

* Other consumer-based storage services (e.g. Dropbox, Google Drive, Apple iCloud, etc.) are only available for Level I data.

[†] If you are a researcher with a faculty appointment, your first 5TB of backed-up storage is available upon request at no cost in your choice of either RDSS or LSS.