



Texas Advanced Computing Center (TACC) PKI

Document Name	TACC Certificate Acceptable Usage Policy Form
Current Version	1.1
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Abstract:

This document describes the acceptable use policies, user agreements and responsibilities governing GRID access by users having TACC issued X.509 certificate identity credentials.

Change History

V1.0	12Jan09	Initial	Created based on TIGRE User Agreement and Responsibility Form
V1.1	25Jan09	Revised	Add key protections. Fix formatting.

Introduction

Each user (hereafter, “you”) requesting services on TACC or IGTF academic grid resources, hereinafter referred to as the GRID, must abide by a common set of basic rules. This document lists those basic rules.

User Agreement

GRID computing facilities, which include its hardware, software, network connections and data, comprise a vital but limited resource for the academic community. For this reason, GRID sites have an obligation to protect those facilities and ensure they are used properly. Responsible conduct on your part helps ensure that the maximum amount of CPU time is available to you and other researchers. Failure to use these resources properly may result in various penalties, including civil and criminal action.

Your signature on this form implies that you have read and understand all responsibilities stated here. If you have any questions about this document, please contact a designated TACC Registration Authority (RA) to discuss the issues. When satisfied, sign and return this form to enable or continue use of your access to resources through your TACC CA certificate.

To run applications across GRID facilities, you must register your X.509 user certificate from a TACC Certificate Authority or equivalent IGTF-approved grid credential, with the GRID central services or middleware. You must also become familiar with the terms for protection and use of the private key associated with your user certificate. By registering with a TACC CA, or by executing a similar agreement with a cooperating party, you shall be deemed to accept the following conditions of use:

Acceptable Use Policy

1. Only use GRID resources to perform work, or transmit or store data consistent with academic research sponsored by your institution or organization and in compliance with resource usage conditions.
2. Refrain from the following unacceptable activities:
 - Using, or attempting to use, GRID resources without authorization or for purposes other than those related to your sponsored research.
 - Tampering with or obstructing the operation of the facilities
 - Reading, changing, distributing, or copying others' data or software without authorization
 - Using GRID resources to attempt to gain unauthorized access to other (non-GRID) sites
 - Activities in violation of local or federal law
3. Immediately report any known or suspected security breach or misuse of GRID resources, or any misuse of your registered TACC credentials to contacts listed below. Request certificate revocation by notifying your RA, the TACC Classic CA and any relying parties immediately:
 - If the private key is lost, destroyed or compromised;
 - If the subscriber is no longer entitled to a certificate, or;
 - If the information in the certificate is no longer correct or is inaccurate.

4. Use GRID resources at your own risk. There is no guarantee that GRID resources will be available at any time or that they will suit any purpose. Services are provided on a best-effort basis, subject to planned and emergency maintenance outages.
5. Ensure the confidentiality of any intellectual property or other confidential data used on GRID resources. GRID sites provide technology to preserve the confidentiality of data, but it is your responsibility to use that technology appropriately.
6. Appropriately acquire and use all software used on GRID systems according to the specified licensing. Possession or use of illegally copied software or unauthorized distribution of copyrighted software or materials is prohibited and subject to penalties.
7. Recognize that access to GRID resources is explicitly governed by the existing policies of the institution through which you gain such access, as well as the existing usage policies of the resources accessed through grid methods.
8. Take every precaution to prevent any loss, disclosure or unauthorized access or use of certificate key materials:
 - o Generate a key pair using a trustworthy method;
 - o Select a strong passphrase with a minimum of 12 characters; and
 - o Protect the passphrase from others, in the case of user certificates.
9. Authorize the processing and conservation of the personal data required for the request verification process (as required under applicable data protection regulations such as UT-System Information Resources Use and Security Policy (UTS 165)).

Disclaimers and Notifications

- **Logged information:** Information provided by you for registration purposes, shall be used only for administrative, operational, accounting, monitoring and security purposes. This information may be disclosed to other organizations anywhere in the world for these purposes. Although administrative best practices serve to maintain personal information confidentiality, no guarantees are given.
- **Support/Diagnostic Access:** Authorized TACC CA site personnel may review files for the purposes of aiding an individual or providing diagnostic investigation for GRID systems.
- **Monitoring:** User activity may be monitored as allowed under policy and law for the protection of data and resources. Any or all uses of this system and all files on this system may be intercepted, monitored, recorded, copied, audited, inspected, and disclosed to authorized site or law enforcement personnel, as well as authorized officials of other agencies, both domestic and foreign. By using this system, the user consents to such at the discretion of authorized site personnel.
- **Access Notification:** Access to user data and communications will not normally be performed without explicit authorization and/or advance notice unless exigent circumstances exist. Post-incident notification will be provided in such cases.

Penalties

Failure to abide by this agreement may result in one or more of a variety of penalties imposed, as described below.

- Account Suspension/Revocation: Accounts may be temporarily suspended or permanently

revoked if compromised or abused. Your account on any GRID resource may be suspended without advance notice if there is suspicion of account compromise, system compromise, or malicious or illegal activity.

- Loss of Allocation: You may lose your current allocation and possibly the ability to obtain future allocations.
- Administrative Action: Abusive activity may be reported to your home institution for administrative review and action.
- Civil Penalties: Civil remedies may be pursued to recoup costs incurred from unauthorized use of resources or incident response due to compromise or malicious activity.
- Criminal Penalties: Activities in violation of federal, state, or local law may be reported to the appropriate authorities for investigation and prosecution.

Security and administrative contacts

Report all suspicious activity to abuse@tacc.utexas.edu. All questions regarding certificate support issues and TACC CA administrative practices can be directed to ca@tacc.utexas.edu.

Acceptance statement

The undersigned acknowledges that s/he has read this TACC Certificate Acceptable Usage Policy Form and understands the enclosed information. The undersigned also acknowledges that s/he will abide by the stated policies and procedures to the best of his/her ability. The undersigned is also under obligation to abide by any future changes to the TACC Certificate Acceptable Usage Policy or surrender access to the GRID. All users will be notified when changes are made to this Form. The undersigned also understands that access to GRID will be terminated upon any change to user affiliation or status that removes eligibility for GRID use.

The current TACC Certificate Acceptable Usage Policy can also be found on the TACC web site in both HTML and PDF formats at the link below:

http://www.tacc.utexas.edu/CA/TACC_certificate_AUP.pdf

Name: _____

Daytime Phone#: _____

Institution: _____

E-Mail: _____

Academic status: _____

Signature: _____

Date Signed: _____