

WRDS at Lehigh University College of Business – The Path to Business Intelligence

WRDS has been partly funded through a gift from Pricewaterhouse Coopers.

The faculty and students using WRDS to do their research should acknowledge PWC's contribution by adding the following statement as an acknowledgment in their paper "We gratefully acknowledge the financial support provided by the PricewaterhouseCoopers Foundation in support of the WRDS at Lehigh University."

The following instructions will guide you in obtaining your WRDS account.

Please note: if you already have an existing WRDS account –either active or recently expired—at another institution (because you are a recent graduate or a faculty member who has recently transferred from another institution who has WRDS) do NOT request an additional WRDS account using the process described below. Email wrds@wharton.upenn.edu to request an account transfer.

Step 1: Point your web browser to <http://wrds-web.wharton.upenn.edu/connect>

Step 2: In the center of the page, you will see a link entitled “account request.” Click on that link.

Step 3: Then click on the "request a user account" link and complete the Account Request form.

Step 4: Once you submit an Account Request, we will send an e-mail to your WRDS Representative for approval. After receiving the approval, we will create the account and send you an e-mail message with a special URL and instructions for setting the account password and logging into WRDS.

Step 5: You may log into WRDS and begin using your new account. Because our service is internet-based, you can access WRDS from anywhere in the world.

WRDS may be accessed via the web interface or through a UNIX log in session. Once you have received your account information, consult the “support” tab on the WRDS homepage for further instructions on using these access methods. Account Parameters (applies to faculty, visitor, PhD, staff, and research accounts only):

- Projects Directory/Home Directory: Users also receive 750MB of home and permanent project space under /home/lehigh/username/
- SAS Temp Directory: There is a 90 GB shared workspace designed for actively running programs. Output may be saved there at the completion of a program, but only to be IMMEDIATELY removed. This directory is located at /sastemp. Any file in /sastemp which is either not in use by an active program or being transferred to a user's home

school can be deleted without prior notice. Files on /sastemp are deleted automatically every 48 hours.

- If a user's job exceeds these parameters, the process will automatically be deleted. To avoid this outcome, users are only permitted to run one program at a time. Multiple submissions are prohibited.

The following accounts are considered individual Accounts and provide access to WRDS via web, SSH and /or FTP. As well they all share the same account parameters in terms of disk space.

Faculty accounts are available to all standing faculty of member institutions.

Administrative accounts are provided for full-time support personnel of member institutions. For example: Librarians, IT personnel, etc.

Visitor accounts apply to visiting faculty (nonpermanent or part time position). These accounts are subject to additional review by WRDS and may not be used after the visiting appointment ends.

Research Assistant accounts apply to students doing active research under faculty supervision. These accounts require a faculty sponsor.

Ph.D. accounts are offered to currently-registered doctoral students at member institutions (Undergraduates and MBAs are entitled to Research Assistant accounts only). The following accounts are considered group accounts and provide access to WRDS via web only.

Class accounts can only be requested by standing faculty of member institutions and provide a means for Undergraduates and MBAs to use WRDS as part of a registered class or course project. This type of account is best for completing class assignments. Students registered to a class will share the account username and password. Class accounts permit unlimited simultaneous login and 10 simultaneous data requests. These accounts do NOT include disk storage and they expire at the end of the semester.

Library/Lab accounts are used to access WRDS using IP authentication; thereby, bypassing the need to remember or keep secure a shared password. We simply need to know the IP addresses and corresponding hostnames. Expiration dates are not set for these accounts. Access is gained through a special URL.

A few of the account types require that an expiration date be set, but these dates may be extended before or after the date as user information and files are not automatically deleted on the expiration date. If you need additional clarification, contact wrds-support@wharton.upenn.edu.

Our staff of technical and research specialists may be reached at wrd-support@wharton.upenn.edu. They are available to assist you with difficulties pertaining to database access, data queries, and programming in SAS, FORTRAN, or C. If you request support related to a particular program which you are unable to execute successfully, please copy the program into the body of your e-mail for a quicker response. This is helpful for detecting any errors in your program.

We hope you enjoy your new WRDS accounts. We are confident that you will find the ease of access, abundance of data, and unique system features such as downloading your information to an MS Excel spreadsheet, Advanced Query capabilities, and e-mail notification feature a significant benefit to your research and teaching endeavors.

Please feel free to contact us at wrd-support@wharton.upenn.edu with any questions.