

Using group information

SURFconext supports group management. Via the service SURFconext teams or Institution group providers, groups are defined within SURFconext. Service Providers then are able to re-use the groups. Typically services like Wikis, collaboration tools, videoconferencing and calendar sharing benefit from this functionality.

SURFconext Teams: with SURFconext Teams students, researchers and employees (any user from a connected Identity Provider) are able to create and manage groups. Users are able to invite group members within the whole SURFconext community (including guests).

Institution group providers: institutions already have groups. In some cases, they have configured a group provider. Groups configured locally are then published within SURFconext.

There are several ways to obtain group information as an SP from SURFconext:

1. **Attribute Aggregation:** SURFconext handles fetching the group information for you, and supplies it to your SP as an extra SAML attribute `isMemberOf` (multi-valued). You do not need to implement anything in your SP other than using the new attribute. It can only be used however if your SP wants to know about a predefined fixed set of group names. Ask SURFconext Support to enable this for your SP, and specify the group Ids you're interested in.
2. **Query our group API via a library:** For SP's using simpleSAMLphp, there is a [ssp-voot-groups module](#) you can install in simpleSAMLphp that handles the querying of the API for you. Ask SURFconext Support for API credentials and configure this in the module.
3. **Implement the VOOT API:** You can talk directly to our VOOT protocol API which is a REST API protected with OAuth 2.0. [Learn more about the VOOT protocol.](#)