

# SRAM for institutions

- [Why SRAM](#)
- [3 ways an institute can use SRAM](#)
- [How to order SRAM & pricing info](#)
- [Questions / contact](#)

This page contains information on the SURF Research Access Management (SRAM) service, but focused on institutions. Generic information about SRAM, it's **advantages** for all parties, an animation etc can be found at [SURF Research Access Management - SRAM](#).

## Why SRAM

'In the old days', researchers (and others) often lost much time, and got frustrated, arranging access to resources they needed access to when collaborating in research projects. As employers, institutions want to provide secure and convenient access so their researchers can maximize their research output.

SRAM enables institutions to provide this fast and secure access. As soon as the institution connects their Identity Provider (database with user accounts, like Active Directory) to the SRAM platform, researchers can use their institutional account to sign in to SRAM. Research collaborations and research services have more assurance about the identity of the researcher, and are better able to both allow and block access based on this information.

The institution will get information on the research collaborations their researchers are collaborating in, and what services they use to conduct their research, which is valuable in the context of information management, IPR, research support, GDPR etc. As soon as the institution blocks the account of the researcher, SRAM will be able to signal connected services access for that identity should be invalidated.

## 3 ways an institute can use SRAM

Institutions can use SRAM in the following ways:

1. A (Dutch) institution can start by **allowing their researchers to use their institutional account to do collaborative research and join collaborations**. For this, the IT-department of the institution needs to connect their institution to the SRAM service. The institutional SURFconext contact person needs to [connect the institutional IdP to SRAM](#). Institutions can use the SURFconext [options for fine grained access](#) to limit who within the institution can use their institutional account to access SRAM and it's connect services.
2. Institutions can also **connect their institutional research resources/services**, like data- and compute, so researchers from their and other institutions and organisations can securely access them.
3. A (Dutch) institution can **order the SRAM service**. The institution will then be able to configure whether they want to allow everyone from the institution to create a research Collaboration (COs) on the SRAM platform, or, if not, what mechanism to use to limit who can create COs. This option allows an institution whose researchers are responsible for certain research collaborations to manage their teams and who has access to services.

Researchers can in all situations sign up to a SRAM CO-invite using a guest IdP, like eduID.

## How to order SRAM & pricing info

Are you looking for how to order SRAM as organisation? You'll find [detailed info here](#). If unknown whether your organisation has ordered SRAM or who to contact, [send us an email](#).

If your institution ordered SRAM and we've onboarded you or your organisation: [try to create a CO!](#) Need help? [Send us an email!](#)

## Questions / contact

If you have questions, suggestions etc, please [send us an email](#) and we'll get back to you.