Web Hosting Options

Scope

This page describes the web hosting options available to members of the School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering. The services presented here include IU/UITS offerings available to all members of the IU community as well as those provided by the School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering for use by members of our school. This includes provisions for personal homepages as well as project, course, and research group pages. You can create your own homepage using several of the web hosting options described below using the Homepage Management Page. Please contact the systems staff if you need help setting up any of these options. In your request, please include the URL and hosting option you prefer.

Hosting Options Matrix

There are a lot of web hosting options at your disposal, including SICE, IU/UITS, and non-IU options. The table below attempts to summarize the available options and give the highlights of the advantages and disadvantages of each service. Note that some are appropriate for what are commonly called personal homepages and some are geared toward non-personal SICE and/or research group pages.

Service	URL	Usage	Contact	Advantages	Disadvantages	Getting Started
Non-IU Hosting	Arbitrary	Arbitrary	ISP	- Wide variety of hosting options - Not tied to your IU account so is not removed when you leave IU.	- May not be free but costs are generally modest, depending on your needs - Cannot be used for sensitive data	Contact the ISP managing the desired service. There are literally thousands of web hosting options out there supporting wordpress, drupal, joomla, php, ASP.NET, Ruby on Rails, etc. Once you have a non-IU web page, you can register it so you also have a *http://homes.sice.indiana.edu/username* url via the Homepage Management Page
IU Blogs	http://blogs.iu.edu/something	Blog	UITS	- No cost blog hosting - Familiar Wordpress hosting	- Disappears when you leave IU - Cannot be used for sensitive data	Getting Started with IU Blogs
IU Pages	http://pages.iu.edu/~username	Personal Homepages	UITS	- No cost web hosting - Available to anyone at IU	- Only 1GB of storage space - Disappears when you leave IU - HTML Hosting only, no PHP/CGI - Cannot be used for sensitive data	At IU, what is Pages and how can I publish a web page here?
SICE CGI /PHP Server (for Homepages)	- http://homes.sice.indiana.edu/username - http://cgi.sice.indiana.edu/~username	Personal Homepages	SICE	- No cost web hosting - Available to SICE faculty, staff, and students - Support for PHP and arbitrary CGI programming (python, perl, etc)	- Shared storage space with your SICE Linux account home directory so limited to disk quota - Cannot be used for sensitive data - Disappears when you leave IU	- Homepage Management Page - How do I use PHP on the SICE web server? - How do I run CGI scripts on the SICE web server?
~~SICE Wordpress Homepages~~	~~http://wphomes.soic.indiana.edu/username~~ ~~http://homes.soic.indiana.edu/username~~	~~Personal Homepages~~	~~SICE~~	~~No cost web hosting~~ ~~Available to SICE faculty, staff, and graduate students~~ ~~Popular Wordpress Content Management System~~ ~~Wordpress installation SICE Managed~~	~~Disappears when you leave IU~~ ~~Cannot be used for sensitive data~~	~~How do I ask for help with a SICE technology or facilities issue?~~ This service has been deprecated and is not available for new users. Please use the IU Blogs Wordpress service listed above.

Service	URL	Type	Provider	Features	Limitations	Help
SICE Course Homepages and Syllabus Hosting	• http://homes.sice.indiana.edu/courses/...*course designation...* • Links automatically included on the SICE Course History Pages pages	Course Homepages and Syllabus Uploads	SICE	• No cost web hosting • Available to SICE course instructors • Allows for the upload of course syllabi for automatic inclusion into the SICE Course History Pages pages • Provides historic record of course information	• Can only be used for SICE classes • Cannot be used for sensitive data	How do I upload information about classes I'm teaching?
IU Webserve	• http://www.indiana.edu/~groupname • http://projectname.sice.indiana.edu • http://projectname.indiana.edu • http://projectname.iu.edu	Research and Project Pages	UITS	• Available to all IU faculty and staff sponsored projects • Can be used for non-critical sensitive data for approved projects. • Can be used in conjunction with the IU Web Content Management System (WCMS)	• Not for personal homepages • Minimal cost for storage space > 1GB (school may cover costs for approved use)	Webserve Quick Start Guide
IU Common Hosting Environment (CHE)	• http://projectname.webhost.iu.edu • http://projectname.sice.indiana.edu • http://projectname.indiana.edu • http://projectname.iu.edu	Research and Project Pages	UITS	• Supports ASP.NET in an IIS environment • Can be used for approved sensitive data applications	• Not for personal homepages • Minimal cost for storage space > 1GB (school may cover costs for approved use)	Consolidated Hosting Environment (CHE) Quick Start Guide
IU Enterprise Confluence	• https://uisapp2.iu.edu/confluence-prd/display/projectname • http://projectname.sice.indiana.edu/ (redirect)	Research and Project Pages	UITS	• Easy to use Collaborative/Wiki environment • Confluence installation manged by UITS	• Not for personal homepages • Cannot be used for sensitive data • Requires faculty or staff sponsor	What is the IU Enterprise Confluence?
Wordpress Hosting	• http://projectname.sice.indiana.edu/	Research and Project Pages	SICE	• Popular Wordpress Content Management System • Wordpress installation SICE Managed	• Cannot be used for sensitive data • Requires faculty or staff sponsor	How do I ask for help with a SICE technology or facilities issue?
SICE CGI /PHP Server (for project pages)	• http://projectname.sice.indiana.edu/	Research and Project Pages	SICE	• No cost web hosting • Available to SICE faculty, staff, and students (with faculty or staff sponsor) • Support for PHP and arbitrary CGI programming (python, perl, etc)	• Cannot be used for sensitive data	• Contact SICE for virtual host setup • How do I use PHP on the SICE web server? • How do I run CGI scripts on the SICE web server?
Dedicated Virtual Machines	Various	Research and Project Pages	SICE	• Complete flexibility in configuration and services offered • Ideal for research projects needing custom web environments that do not fit into the standard services • Cost may be subsidized by SICE	• Requires funding source for larger or multiple VMs • Moderate maintenance overhead • Cannot be used for sensitive data without special approval	Virtual Machine Policy

Dedicated Research Servers	Various	Research and Project Pages	SICE	• Complete flexibility in configuration and services offered • Ideal for research projects needing custom web environments, high computational needs, etc	• Requires funding source to purchase server • High maintenance overhead • Cannot be used for sensitive data without special approval	How do I ask for help with a SICE technology or facilities issue?

URL/Domain Naming Convention Notes

URLs will include a domain name that will fall under one of several jurisdictions. For example, SICE controls the sice.indiana.edu domain so we can assign domains names of the form projectname.sice.indiana.edu. Here are the common domains you are likely to want to use and some considerations and rules regarding each.

- **sice.indiana.edu** -This domain is controlled by the School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering so getting domain names of the form something.sice.indiana.edu is a relatively simple matter. As noted in the matrix above, we can host sites in this domain using a number of different hosting services within IU.
- **cs.indiana.edu/ils.indiana.edu/informatics.indiana.edu/engineering.indiana.edu** - These domains are also controlled by the School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering and URLs using these domains only require approval by the head of the corresponding division.
- **indiana.edu** - Sites within the top level indiana.edu domain (as opposed to the sice.indiana.edu domain) are reserved for projects that span multiple schools, departments, or organizations on the Bloomington campus. A project that exists completely within the SICE will normally be created within the sice.indiana.edu domain. To request a domain within indiana.edu, the sponsoring faculty member must write a short justification describing the inter-unit nature of the project. We will submit this to UITS for approval.
- **iu.edu** - Sites within the top level iu.edu domain are reserved for projects that span multiple IU campuses. A project that exists completely within the SICE will normally be created within the sice.indiana.edu domain and projects that span multiple units on the Bloomington campus will normally be created within the indiana.edu domain. To request a domain within iu.edu, the sponsoring faculty member must write a short justification describing the inter-campus nature of the project. We will submit this to UITS for approval.
- **.org** - The .org namespace is not controlled by IU so you are free to get names within the .org domain using non-IU hosting services. However, if you want to set up a .org and have the DNS and/or web pages hosted at IU then you have to get approval from IU Communications as detailed in the UITS KB page At IU, what are the DNS policies?
- **.com and other commercial domains** - The hosting of commercial domains (eg. .com) at IU is generally not permitted but there are always exceptions. For more information, see the UITS KB page At IU, what are the DNS policies?