I have an XSEDE/NICS account, now what?
Topics to be covered

I. What is the account process?

II. How do I enable my account? What is expected of me?

III. What is an OTP, do I need one? How do I receive and activate it?

IV. How do I log in?

V. How do I get help?
What is the account process?

I. XSEDE

- Each person creates their XSEDE user ID.
- The PI adds each user to the project
- XSEDE sends an electronic packet to the resource providers for each system you have access
- The site where the resource is managed must process the packet before access to the system is available.

II. NICS Director Discretionary

- Account applied for on NICS web link
- PI approves access to the project
- Notification sent to user – new users only
- First time users verify their information and agree to NICS policies
- OTP (One Time Password) required IF you do not have an active XSEDE account.
How do I enable my account? Common questions:

Q. Once I receive my notice from XSEDE do I have immediately access to my systems?

A. While XSEDE may create accounts quickly each resource provider has their own process to create accounts. Each resource provider has different processes.

Q. I have access to some XSEDE systems as well as Darter, and Nautilus. Logging into my other XSEDE systems works fine, but Darter and Nautilus both give me "Permission Denied".

A. NICS has additional processes that must complete before the account is enabled. When an account is complete it remains disabled until the user logs into his/her NICS user portal, verifies their information and accepts our policies. If all requirements are met the account is automatically enabled and the (XSEDE) user can log in with the XSEDE single sign on hub.

Q. How do I get to my NICS user portal to enable my account?

A. NICS sends an email with your account information and a link to your NICS user portal.
Dear New User:

Welcome to High Performance Computing at NICS! This email provides you with information necessary to access your account at the National Institute for Computational Sciences (NICS).

PI: Dr. XYZ
Project: UT-NTB.xyz
Username: newuser

For additional information or to contact us please reference:
Website: http://www.nics.tennessee.edu
Telephone: 866-907-2383 (XSEDE Operations Center)
Telephone: 865-241-1504 (NICS User Support)
Email: help@xsede.org

Attached are User Responsibilities that you must agree to when using NICS resources.

NICS resources can be accessed in two ways. The first is by GSI using the XSEDE Single Sign on Hub, the second is with One Time Password (OTP) authentication. OTP is required for access by ssh and to access HPS5 storage.

If your role on this project requires you to log into one of the computers we support you must activate your login and confirm your information at https://portal.nics.tennessee.edu/activation/request/newuser/123456

Once you have activated your account, you will be sent an email to confirm this. At that point, XSEDE users will be able to log in through the XSEDE Single Sign On Hub. Instructions are at https://www.xsede.org/web/xup/single-sign-on-hub

If your project is allocated directly through NICS you will require an OTP for access. Information regarding the process of obtaining and activating an OTP will be included in a follow up email you receive once your account is activated.

Sincerely,
NICS Support Team

Attached is a pdf file - nics_user_responsibilities.pdf
NICS process continued – User Portal:

The NICS User Portal is where you first verify your information and activate your account. However, the portal offers you the ability to manage some of your account issues.

For example, if you have more than one project you are associated with you can set the default project.

You may also change the default shell through a drop down menu.
What are my responsibilities?

I. User Responsibilities

- XSEDE https://www.xsede.org/usage-policies
- NICS https://www.nics.tennessee.edu/user-responsibilities
- Activating your account and accessing systems implies you agree to these policies – you WILL be held accountable.
- Provide reports and feedback – surveys, papers, progress reports

II. Most common violation

- Account sharing
  - You may NOT access any system with someone else’s credentials
  - Sharing accounts violates all security practices and will result in your account suspension. Projects also may be disabled.
NICS Process continued – Sent when account is enabled:

Dear New User

This is to inform you that your account at NICS has been enabled. Your NFS home directory is currently being populated, along with your /usr directory. This process could take up to an hour to complete, after which you should have access to your NICS resources with GSI through the XSEDE Single Sign on Hub. For information regarding GSI and the XSEDE Single Sign on Hub, please see https://www.xsede.org/web/xso/single-sign-on-hub.

If your project is not allocated through XSEDE, you will be required to use a One Time Password (OTP) token. OTP tokens are necessary for ssh access and HPSS storage access.

While we encourage secure OTP access, short-term projects--such as class accounts and Campus Champion accounts--are better served with the XSEDE Single Sign On Hub.

If you would like to have an OTP token mailed to you, please send an email to accounts@nics.utk.edu with your request. Be sure to include your NICS username and your complete mailing address (home addresses are preferred as many OTP tokens are delayed and lost in university mail).

You will be required to have the attached form notarized and returned before your token is enabled. Once you receive your token, please email accounts@nics.utk.edu with your token serial number. When NICS has received your NICS Token Activation Form and the token serial number, your token will be activated. You will then receive an email with the instructions on how to set your pin number and login with OTP authentication.

Sincerely,

NICS Support Team

Attached is a pdf file.
NICS OTP Common questions:

Q. I heard I need an OTP for NICS. What is an OTP, do I need one and how do I get one?

A. OTP stands for One Time Password. This is an electronic key that provides a constantly changing code that is used to log into the system. The code must match the database to allow access.

B. You do not need an OTP unless 1) your account is strictly a local NICS Director Discretionary and you have no NICS XSEDE user name 2) you have an allocation for HPSS (High Performance Storage System).

C. If you require an OTP you MUST respond to the email from accounts@nics.utk.edu that is generated when you activate your account. It will instruct you to send your request and address to accounts@nics.utk.edu.
NICS Process continued – NICS Token Activation Form:

NICS Token Activation Form

Person who has possession of NICS RSA One Time Password token
Name:
Address:
City:
State/Province: Zip/Postal Code:
Phone Number:
Citizenship: Signature:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Token Serial Number (if available)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notary or NICS Registration Agent
Name:
Address:
City: State: Zip Code:

Notary Commission and Expiration
State of County of
On this the day of Month Year, Name
Personally appeared before me: Name of notary or Agent and proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person whose name is listed above.

Witness my hand and official seal

Signature of Notary or Agent

Notary Seal

Return this form to:
National Institute for Computational Sciences (NICS)
University of Tennessee
P.O. Box 2008, Bldg 5100
Oak Ridge, TN 37831-6173
Attn: Accounts
I am enabled now how do I log into the system?

I. XSEDE Logins

- XSEDE now provides a single sign on login hub
- [https://www.xsede.org/web/xup/single-sign-on-hub](https://www.xsede.org/web/xup/single-sign-on-hub)
  Log into the XSEDE hub with username@login.xsede.org
  From there you may gsissh to XSEDE resources you have access to
  i.e.

```bash
$ gssif login.xsede.org
```

---

```
pattli:~patrick/mckelley pattli@login.xsede.org
pattli@logon.xsede.org's password:

Welcome to the XSEDE Single Sign-On (SSO) Hub
Your storage on this machine is limited to 10GB.

You may connect from here to any XSEDE resource on which you have an account.

To view a list of sites where you actually have an account, visit:
https://portal.xsede.org/groups/xup/accounts

Here are the login commands for common XSEDE resources:

Blacklight: gssif blacklight.xsede.org
DartNet: gssif darter.xsede.org
Gordon (ClimaC): gssif gordon.xsede.org
Gordon (CNS): gssif gordon.cns.xsede.org
Keck (CNS): gssif keck.xsede.org
Lonestar: gssif lonestar.xsede.org
Mavens: gssif maven.xsede.org
Maverick: gssif -p 3222 maverick.xsede.org
Nautica: gssif nautica.xsede.org
Open Science Grid: gssif gosgf.xsede.org
Stampede: gssif -p 3222 stampede.xsede.org
SuperMUC: gssif -p 3222 supermuc.de-lmu.xsede.org
Trinity: gssif trinity.xsede.org

Contact help@xsede.org for any assistance that may be needed.
```

[pattli@xsede ~]
```
How are local NICS discretionary accounts different?

Local NICS discretionary accounts are separate from XSEDE. Because XSEDE provides the gsi login credentials. Therefore you must have an XSEDE NICS account in order to take advantage of the single sign on capabilities. If your account is ONLY at NICS you will be required to use the OTP token. If you have both an XSEDE and NICS discretionary you may use both methods. NOTE: NICS does have systems that are not XSEDE allocated systems. Currently these require OTP access only.
Q. I received my OTP but how do I activate it?
A. Tokens are not active when they are mailed. You must first have notarized and return the enclosed NICS Token Activation Form so that we can be certain that the correct person has possession of the token.

Q. Can I just scan and email a copy?
A. Yes, but we still require the original for our files. If your token has not yet arrived you will have to send the serial number via the registered email address before the form is accepted. We allow a week for mail delivery.

Q. I have my token AND received notice I can set my pin and log in. How do I do that?
A. Next slide.
Q. How do I set my pin?
A. Example for newuser below. Note: you may NOT use letters. Do not put spaces between the pin and the token number.

[user@myhost]$ ssh newuser@login.nics.tennessee.edu
Enter PASSCODE: (enter the token code from the token)
To continue, you must enter a new PIN.
Are you ready to enter a new PIN? (y/n) [n]: y
Enter a new PIN between 4 and 8 digits: [Desired Pin Number]
Re-enter new PIN to confirm: [Pin Number]
New PIN accepted, press enter to continue.
Enter PASSCODE: [Pin Number + Token Code]
Last login: Tue May 27 08:40:11 2013 from myhost.domain.edu
Q. Where do I get the box you used to ssh to the xsede login OR directly to NICS?
A. The login window is called a terminal and is available on linux and unix systems. If you are using a pc you should download putty to your system.
   1. Go to [www.putty.org](http://www.putty.org)
   2. Install putty on your system
How to get help and Reference Material

To get help with NICS HPC issues you may send an email to help@nics.utk.edu or XSEDE help tickets are created by sending an email to help@xsede.org

Reference Material:

NICS:

www.nics.tennessee.edu especially helpful is the Quick Start guide, New to HPC, and the FAQ’s.
www.nics.tennessee.edu/user-responsibilities
www.nics.tennessee.edu/getting-started/

XSEDE:

www.xsede.org
https://www.xsede.org/web/guest/usage-policies