Resource providers no longer need to support and manage user accounts and passwords.

Partnerships can be integrated quickly on the standards-based Identity-Provider/Service Provider Shibboleth System.

Fine-grained access controls allow licensing or sharing of secure, remote services for any group of individuals regardless of its size.

Users access any resource with one username and password from their home institution.

Users can access resources from any location, not just from campus-based IP addresses.

Users’ privacy is protected by their home institution with minimal, agreed-upon release of personal information.

Participants in their own words:

**Identity Providers Benefit by**
- Accessing content partners in the federation and developing pilots.
- Economies of scale. For opportunities to bear fruit, marginal costs have to be near zero. It’s easier to pursue federation opportunities without spending lots of time on the low-level details.
- Leveraging partners to influence vendors.
- Helping develop infrastructure. Joining InCommon helped us develop the infrastructure necessary for identity management.

**Service Providers Benefit by**
- Creating proper procedures for allowing federated authentication between us and our clients.
- Allowing expansion to serve those that are not coincident to a large academic population.
- Blending the best aspects of Authentication and Authorization techniques into one single method.
- Anticipating that we can serve our customers best by adopting Shibboleth.
- Growing with potentially the largest academic federation and getting on board to help a gain critical mass.
- Personalization of experience. Users can choose to log on either completely anonymously or they can disclose some basic information to allow us to personalize their experience.
- Contributing to and learning from the exchange of Shibboleth knowledge.

**Current Participants Include**
- Case Western Reserve University
- Cornell University
- Dartmouth
- Elsevier ScienceDirect
- Georgetown University
- Houston Academy of Medicine - Texas Medical Center Library
- Internet2
- OCLC
- The Ohio State University
- Ohio University
- OhioLink - The Ohio Library & Information Network
- Penn State
- SUNY Buffalo
- University of Alabama at Birmingham
- University of California, Irvine
- University of California, Los Angeles
- University of California, Office of the President
- University of California, San Diego
- The University of Chicago
- University of Rochester
- University of Southern California
- University of Virginia
- University of Washington
- WebAssign

www.incommonfederation.org