Research IT

Research IT aims to provide the specialised eResearch capabilities to help University of Manchester researchers realise their aspirations and undertake world leading, high impact research. We work with you to eliminate barriers, increase your productivity and continuously expand what’s possible in your research.

Services

Computational resources

We provide access to and support of a wide variety of local high performance and high throughput platforms for computationally intensive research. This includes an interactive system, a traditional batch facility, HPC resources, GPUs, and an HTCondor Pool. In addition we can help you with access to regional, national and international computational resources as your needs grow.

We also provide access to public Cloud resources such as Amazon Web Services (AWS) allowing you to receive a monthly bill charged to your research account. Alongside this we offer technical support and help you with security and Information Governance issues in the Cloud.

Research VMs

Research groups often require custom websites, shared development areas or a need for collaboration space. We offer virtual machines (VMs) for these and other use cases. Research VMs can also be used to replace any local servers you may have within your research group or department.

Research software and data science

The Research Software and Data Science team are all professional software developers with particular expertise in creating software for academic research. We work with researchers to create correct, sustainable and efficient code, and we are available to collaborate with you over days, weeks, months or even years on the software engineering and data science aspects of your research projects.

Research Application Support provides help with installation (including from source code), usage, and optimisation of research
applications. This service is free and you can access it via the IT Support Centre.

**Research data management and storage**

The demands on researchers to proactively manage their research output are growing and we are ideally placed to assist. We can help with the design of Research Data Management plans, Standard Operating Procedures, Information Governance and other issues.

We also provide large-scale, secure data storage. This is professionally-managed and all data is replicated (backed up) and snapshotted (allowing researchers to recover files if accidentally deleted or corrupted).

**Consultancy**

We offer a consultancy service to researchers planning or submitting research grant applications. We can support you through the lifecycle of your project, including the scoping of software engineering needs and preparation and costing of grant applications. This ensures that your research has all the support it requires over its lifetime.

**Mobile app development**

The Mobile Development Service (MDS) is a cross-platform app development team who can develop apps for the iOS, Android or the Universal Windows Platform. Apps can be distributed through the Apple, Google and Windows Stores or through private channels. The MDS also provides support and advice, if you develop your own apps, and guidance on compliance with GDPR and research data integrity.

**Visualisation and Data Analysis Laboratory (vDAL)**

The vDAL service offers support for data visualisation and analysis, virtual/augmented reality (VR/AR) technologies and access to a bookable space where researchers can explore and develop solutions with our pool of research software engineers. Whether your needs range from feasibility to dissemination, the service provides exciting opportunities to investigate and understand your research data in novel and exciting ways.
Training
We provide a range of free training courses in software and computational techniques to researchers and postgraduate research students across the University. Our courses are delivered online or in-person by our expert team and we also work with external training providers to deliver a comprehensive training programme.

Outreach and community building
We run a series of outreach and community building events to keep researchers up to date with the latest developments from Research IT.
- **Research IT Club** – hear our latest news and service updates as well as seeing real-life examples of how our services are helping researchers across the University.
- **Research IT Costing Clinics** – find out more about the services that we offer and how to cost for them in your research grant application.
- **Drop-in sessions** – speak to a member of Research IT about any Research IT issues you may be having. No appointment necessary.

Stay in touch

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- [@UoM_eResearch](https://twitter.com/UoM_eResearch)
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