

Obtaining FlowJo Software Licenses through the LRI Flow Core

Disclaimer:

The Flow Cytometry Core *uses* FlowJo software and makes it available for individual labs. The core does not *represent* FlowJo, LLC nor does it *profit* in any way from our licensing arrangement with that company. Just like any other license sharer, the Core pays full price for the license seats used within the Core.

FlowJo Software Licenses

Use of FlowJo software requires a purchased license. The Flow cytometry Cores uses a **Licensing Server** (For institutions with ten or more users. It is scalable and allows free upgrades.)

Using FlowJo through the Flow Core: How FlowJo sets up their licensing server system

- **Licensing and Charges**

The Core undertakes an annual server-based license agreement with FlowJo. (The actual cost of this license will depend on the number of license “seats” used during the ensuing license year.)

- We commit to pay for a minimum of ten seats even though the Core itself uses only five seats.
- Other license seats can then be offered to Cleveland Clinic investigators — with the cost per seat being significantly cheaper than purchasing an individual license.
- FlowJo figures the annual charge based on the number of computers that are registered during the license year (April through March).
 - The more users there are, the less each seat costs.

Example: For the recent billing year, FlowJo charged (academic pricing):

- 10 seats total: \$690/seat
- 40 seats total: \$261/seat
- 120 seats total: 130/seat
- The year is broken into quarters, so a computer that is registered for only 6 months is billed as *.5 seats*.

Note: A registered computer is considered *active* — and billable — no matter how often or little the license is used.

- Annual Billing:
 - At the end of the license year, the Core is billed for the total amount and then divides that charge among labs based on the number of “seats” registered to those labs during that period.

- The Core or Admin contacts each lab to let them know their portion of the cost and to request an activity number to be used for billing.
- **Obtaining a FlowJo license seat through the Flow Core**

To use the license, a computer must be individually registered with the company (FlowJo, LLC).

1. An investigator will make a request through the Flow Core (FlowCore_LRI@ccf.org).
2. A Core staff person will record the request and contact LRI Computing Services (who must set up a unique “hardware address” [HWA] for the designated computer).
3. The investigator arranges with LRICS to install the necessary software on the computer.
4. FlowJo then “activates” the license on that computer.
5. Removal of a computer from the license requires a *deactivation request* made to the company. A lab representative should contact the Core and a staff member will submit the request.

Important notes:

- The license is associated with the “hardware address” of a *computer*, not the person who requested it.
 - Anyone can use the software on that computer.
 - If the original requestor leaves the lab, the license is *still active* on that computer.
- Only a request for *deactivation* made to FlowJo can remove a computer from the list (and the billing). This is done through the Core.
 - Frequency of FlowJo use is not a factor — nor does it matter if the computer is turned off (or even retired).
 - The computer is billed for $\frac{1}{4}$ seat for any portion of a quarter that it is active. So, a computer that is active from April 1st and then deactivated July 30th is billed for .5 seats.