

iThenticate™ Pilot for Faculty Through October 2019

What is iThenticate™?

iThenticate is an online application that allows faculty to evaluate their draft documents (e.g., grant proposals, research manuscripts, etc.) for risks of plagiarism, helping them prevent research and scholarship misconduct. UMOR and the Ann Arbor schools/colleges/institutes have purchased cost-shared license for this vendor-hosted plagiarism detection software.

How will faculty access iThenticate?

UMOR will create user accounts for certain faculty in your school/college/institute. **These accounts will be established beginning March 6th.**

Upon account creation, an automated email will be sent to the faculty member, notifying him/her of the iThenticate account availability and providing login instructions.

The faculty member can then log into iThenticate using their UMICH email address (e.g., uniquename@umich.edu). A link to the iThenticate login page can be found at: <http://research-compliance.umich.edu/research-integrity/plagiarism-detection>.

How were the faculty identified?

From Human Resources data. The basic criteria were:

- Active appointments, with total FTE greater than or equal to (\geq) 0.50 FTE
- Appointing Department Group
- Ann Arbor campus
- Specific job codes within the Regular Clinical Instructional, Regular Instructional, and Primary job families for:
 - Clinical Professor, Clinical Associate Professor, Clinical Assistant Professor
 - Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor (tenure and non-tenure)
 - Research Scientist, Assistant Research Scientist, Associate Research Scientist, Research Professor, Research Associate Professor, Research Assistant Professor, Research Investigator
 - Librarian, Assistant Librarian, Senior Associate Librarian, Associate Librarian (University Library only)
- No emeriti, students, trainees, or staff

What is U-M's support model for iThenticate?

Except for account creation, U-M is adopting a self-service model for iThenticate use. The faculty member:

- Accesses training modules and help information (e.g., FAQs) on the iThenticate web site
- Creates and maintains their own folders
- Submits their documents for plagiarism check
- Interprets results themselves acknowledging that iThenticate not infallible (i.e., limited access to rare books, etc.)

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- Cannot view the folders or the results of others

To provide basic information and links to iThenticate, UMOR will maintain a [Plagiarism Detection web page](#).

Does iThenticate store the documents I upload in its databases?

No. Per the [iThenticate FAQ](#): “iThenticate does not add your manuscript to ANY databases. Unlike many free plagiarism checker services, iThenticate does not store, share or resell uploaded files.”

As the account holder, you upload documents to your personally-created folders. Only you have access to your folders and the documents within them. You choose how to manage the documents in your folders. iThenticate does not add documents uploaded to your folders to any comparison database.

Where can I find job aids on how to use iThenticate?

iThenticate provides the following on their website:

- [Quick Start Guide](#) (link to download)
- [User Manual](#)

Is there training to learn how to use iThenticate?

Yes, but it’s not mandatory (nor tracked centrally). The vendor offers webinars, user manuals, and short videos that demonstrate how to use the software, set up folders, interpret results, and more. For links to these resources, see: <http://research-compliance.umich.edu/research-integrity/plagiarism-detection>.

Can students use iThenticate?

Students **will not** be granted an account under the U-M iThenticate license.

As U-M faculty, can I check my students’ work using iThenticate?

Yes. As a faculty member, you choose what to upload into iThenticate to check for risks of plagiarism. While the U-M iThenticate license is intended to be used to check your own draft research publications/submissions, U-M will not limit your use of iThenticate for broader academic/research purposes.

Note: Students will not have an iThenticate account via the U-M license. While you can check their work using your account, do not share your account login and password with anyone else. Any review of the results with the student should be conducted off-line of iThenticate.

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Who can I contact if I have questions?

For technical and general help in using iThenticate, email iThenticate at ithsupport@ithenticate.com, or, if you are logged into the application, click the Help button.

For U-M account questions, contact um-ithenticate@umich.edu.