

# Research Drive: Getting an account

Research Drive is offered in two different varieties:

- Community instance  
Here you share the Research Drive service with other users from other organisations
- Your own [branded instance](#)  
Here you can have your own private Research Drive instance with the branding of your own organisation.  
If you want access to a branded instance please contact your institutes ICT department

There are two ways to get access to the **Research Drive Community Instance**:

1. If you are already **using other compute services at SURF** (such as Research Cloud, Lisa or Snellius), you can apply for the service via a pilot grant.  
Please check that your institutes do not have a [branded instance](#). For the pilot grants, you need to fill out a [pilot applications request form](#).  
We will assess your request and will let you know about the decision.
2. You can also use the service independently for data storage and data sharing. In this case, you will need to make a separate contract and there will be fees involved.  
For buying the service, you would need to contact us via our [Servicedesk](#).