Privileges and Obligations of Users and Principal Investigators

Privileges and Obligations of All Users

All users of the HPC clusters managed by CCAM have the following privileges:

- The privilege to use the HPC resources to perform scientific research and/or educational activities.
- The privilege to have equitable access to the HPC resources.
- The privilege to receive the training necessary to effectively utilize the HPC resources including documentation, training videos, and mentorship from their Principal Investigator.
- The privilege to obtain technical support through the HPC Administrator after first consulting with members of their research group, instructor, and/or Principal Investigator.
- The privilege to provide annual feedback to the CCAM Computation Committee about their experiences using the HPC resources. This feedback will be collected through a survey that will be optional to complete.

All users of the HPC clusters managed by CCAM have the following obligations:

- Only use the HPC resources to perform scientific research or educational activities. The use of the HPC resources to perform for-profit or illicit activities will warrant immediate suspension of their account.
- Understand the resources involved in all submitted calculations. In particular, all users must be careful to ensure that all submitted calculations do not exceed the limitations of the node(s) on which they are running.
- Users are prohibited from running applications on the head node – all calculations must be submitted to the queue. All memory and CPU intensive processes (including applications, compilations, and visualizations) must be performed on the compute needs. The HPC Administrator has the authority to immediately terminate any user applications running on the head node that have the potential to negatively impact the cluster.

Privileges and Obligations of Principle Investigators

In addition to the privileges of all users, Principal Investigators have the following additional privileges:

- Receive training from the HPC Administrator and/or members of CCAM in getting started with the HPC cluster, setting up their data directory, etc.
- Receive support from the HPC Administrator for software installation, allocation of additional storage space, etc.
- Receive support from the HPC Administrator for technical problems encountered while using the HPC resources.
In addition to the obligations of all users, Principal Investigators have the following obligations:

• Principal Investigators are responsible for maintaining their research group’s data directory, job submission script, etc.

• Principal Investigators are responsible for training all members of their research group and/or class in how to effectively use the HPC resources. This includes clearly communicating the privileges and obligations of users of CCAM HPC resources.

• Principal Investigators are responsible for being the primary point of contact when members of their research team experience technical problems. The HPC Administrator should only be contacted after the Principal Investigator has attempted to resolve the issue – either the researcher or the Principal Investigator can make this contact.

• Principal Investigators have the obligation to include the following acknowledgement in all publications that include data, calculations and/or analysis that was obtained using CCAM HPC resources:

  “Computational resources were provided through the Center for Computational and Applied Mathematics at the California State University, Fullerton.”

• Principal Investigators have the obligation to include the CCAM logo on all presentations and posters that include data generated using HPC resources managed by CCAM.

• Principal Investigators have the obligation to include the following acknowledgement in any publications, presentations, or posters that include work performed on the Turing HPC cluster:

  “This work was partially supported by the U.S. Army, award # W911NF-21-1-0266.”

• Principal Investigators have the obligation to submit a report on an annual basis detailing their research and/or educational activities that make use of the HPC resources managed by CCAM along with a list of all publications, presentations, and posters that resulted from these activities.

• On an annual basis, Principal Investigators will be required to provide the HPC Administrator with a list of users that can be removed.

Rights of CCAM as Steward of the HPC Resources

CCAM works on the assumption that all Principal Investigators and users work together within a framework of collegiality, good faith, and desire to be good citizens. A user's continued and future privileges to utilize the HPC resources managed by CCAM are contingent upon the user being a good citizen and following all of the obligations described above.

In the event that a user’s violation of one or more of the policies outlined above negatively impacts other users of the HPC resources, either directly or indirectly, the HPC Administrator has the authority to immediately cancel the job(s) and/or suspend the user’s account. The HPC Administrator shall notify the user and their Principal Investigator if a job is cancelled and provide a clear explanation as to why this action was taken. The HPC Administrator shall notify the Principal Investigator, the Chair of the CCAM
Computation Committee, and the Director of CCAM if a user’s account is suspended. This notification will include a clear rationale for why this action was taken, including a description of that user’s violation(s) of policy.

If a student or collaborator account is suspended, the Principal Investigator must work with the user to develop a clear plan to avoid all future violations of CCAM policy. The Principal Investigator and HPC Administrator will develop an appropriate timeline and/or plan for allowing that user to regain access to the HPC resources. Any conflicts about this will first go to the Director of CCAM and then, if necessary, the CCAM Computation Committee.

If a Principal Investigator account is suspended, the Director of CCAM will, in consultation with the HPC Administrator, develop a plan for the Principal Investigator to regain access. This plan shall address how the Principal Investigator will avoid violating CCAM policies in the future. Any conflicts regarding this plan will be mediated by the CCAM Computation Committee.