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Memorandum

To: Faculty and Staff
From: Jennifer Rexford, Provost
Date: October 28, 2026
Re: Announcing Princeton ChatGPT pilot

Dear faculty and staff colleagues:

Princeton has negotiated a pilot enterprise program with OpenAI that broadens access to ChatGPT for the University community, provides greater data security and privacy protections than available through individual arrangements, and reduces costs for departments and researchers already using OpenAI's tools.

Starting today, all faculty, academic professionals, and other staff can [request access](#) to this University-managed tool, **Princeton ChatGPT**. More on student access below.

The [Princeton ChatGPT pilot](#) lets us offer licenses to faculty and staff across campus for ChatGPT Plus and Pro accounts at a fraction of market rates and will make the most advanced OpenAI models available to researchers who have been asking for them. Importantly, Princeton's agreement with OpenAI prohibits OpenAI from using content submitted by University users to train its models. The pilot will be evaluated after one year to determine if the University should continue offering campus-wide licenses.

Princeton will continue to provide access to [other AI tools](#) based on interest and need. Use of any AI tool at Princeton remains subject to [University policies](#), as well as those set at the unit or departmental level. Specifically, these policies include rules relating to the handling of [confidential, restricted, and highly restricted information](#). Restricted and highly restricted information should never be used with ChatGPT and other generative AI tools.

Graduate and undergraduate students will be able to request access to Princeton ChatGPT in January before the start of the Spring semester. Student access will be contingent upon completion of a training module on AI use developed by the University. Permissible student use of AI will continue to be determined by faculty and departments, as well as University policy.

We are scheduling the rollout of student access for January in order to give faculty time to consider how the campus-wide licensing of ChatGPT may affect their pedagogical choices.

I know the topic of AI at Princeton and in higher education is complex and raises many questions, and I am grateful to the faculty and staff who have provided input as we developed this pilot initiative. We will continue to address the opportunities and challenges associated with AI through our ordinary processes and ad-hoc forums. I encourage everyone to participate.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jennifer Rexford".

Jennifer Rexford

Provost and the Gordon Y.S. Wu Professor in Engineering and Professor of Computer Science