

UW Certificate Services



End of Life for 2-year Certificates

Due to new restrictions put in place by leading browsers, InCommon certificates will have a maximum lifetime of one year starting **August 19, 2020**. Two-year certificates created before that date will continue to be valid for their full lifetime. This change affects all publicly trusted CAs. The UWCA is not a publicly trusted CA and continues to issue three year certificates. Read more at [End of Life for 2-year Certificates](#).

Overview

UW Certificate Services enables self-service requests by registered owners of DNS names to obtain X.509 certificates from the UW Services CA and InCommon CA.

Registered owners of DNS names can manage their certificates via the UW Certificate Services website at <https://iam-tools.u.washington.edu/cs/>

Authorization is based on registered contact information for DNS names managed in UW DNS, and based on UW group memberships for DNS names managed outside of UW DNS.

InCommon CA or UW CA?

In general, use InCommon CA if the certificate is for website SSL, and UW CA if the certificate is for authenticating to a UW web service (e.g. student web service or person web service). For more information see [CA comparison](#).

InCommon CA

Recommended for:

- Server certificates for website SSL

Features:

- InCommon CA is rooted in a commercial CA certificate trusted by browsers and OSes.
- Accepts certificate requests via the [UW Certificate Services website](#).
- Supports server certificates for UW websites and other services.
- Supports unlimited server certificates for all UW-owned domains approved by InCommon.
- Wildcard certificates available to registered owners of approved domains.
- Certificates issued at no additional cost to UW departments; part of the [basic services bundle](#).
- End users don't need to install any additional root certificates.
- Server admins must install the InCommon CA intermediate certificate.
- Not trusted by most UW Web Services for client authentication.

Documentation:

- [Obtain a Certificate from the InCommon CA](#)
- [Request a New Domain for InCommon CA Certificates](#)
- [InCommon Cert Service FAQ](#)

UW Services CA

Recommended for:

- Client certificates for interaction with UW Web Services

Features:

- Accepts certificate requests via the [UW Certificate Services website](#).
- Supports client certificates for UW applications for TLS client authentication.
- Not trusted by default by browsers and operating systems.
- To avoid browser warnings, end users must [install the UW Services CA root certificate](#).
- Trusted by most [UW Web Services](#) for client authentication.

Documentation:

- [UW Services CA FAQ](#)
- [UW Services CA Technical Information](#)
- [UW Services Certificate Authority Certification Practices Statement](#)
- [Obtain a UW Services CA Certificate For a UW Application](#)
- [Installing the UW Services CA Root Certificate in a Browser](#)

See Also

- [Obtain a Certificate on Windows Server 2008 R2 and 2012 \(Without Using IIS\)](#)
- [Fixing Certificate Installation Errors on Windows](#)
- [Certificate Installation Errors in IIS 7 Manager](#)
- [Exporting Certificates from the Windows Certificate Store](#)
- [Extracting Certificate and Private Key Files from a .pfx File](#)
- [UW Certificate Services Go Commercial](#)
- [How to add a UWCA server cert to your browser](#)
- [How to obtain a UW CA certificate for use on your workstation](#)