

Solution Brief

Nasuni for Higher Education



Highlights

Reduce IT expenses by half by replacing expensive, ongoing hardware CapEx with OpEx

Support students, faculty, and administrators regardless of their on- or off-campus location

Provide data resiliency with built-in data backup protection with fast recovery times to any location

Turn unstructured data into Big Data for analytics and data augmentation

Facilitate research with multiple-location collaboration on large data sets for students and faculty

The Challenge: Learning institutions are struggling to manage the growth in the size and volume of student, faculty, and administrative files... and the associated costs.

Like public sector organizations, universities and colleges around the world are hitting a wall with their traditional NAS and file server infrastructure. IT can't swap out physical drives fast enough to keep pace with the creation of files across higher educational systems. Over time, multiple 'silos' of file storage have popped up across campuses with various vendors, operating systems, management consoles, and access policies. The people who quietly use this file storage (students, faculty, administrators, and even alumni) need to access their files from anywhere and collaborate across multiple departments, buildings, campuses, libraries, and coffee shops. Traditional storage doesn't allow that. Unchecked file growth also strains existing backup and disaster recovery solutions. One down site can take days to restore using traditional technologies, impacting an entire school's schedule and disrupting thousands of people.

Today, IT leaders in higher education are reevaluating their approach to file infrastructure. According to EDUCAUSE's "[NMC Horizon Report: 2018 Higher Education Edition](#)," universities are "making changes to prepare for a 'new age' of lifelong learning by incorporating cloud-based software and other technologies — that are helping create digital learning ecosystems that serve lifelong learners." Some IT leaders have experimented with consumer-grade cloud file-sharing tools to meet these needs, but the lack of business-class scalability, security, administration, and data protection has left the promise unfulfilled. Higher education needs these enterprise-grade features, but at a reasonable, cost-effective price point, and that has not been possible. Until now.

“We were spending more time and money on trying to keep up with our file storage demands than any other IT infrastructure. Nasuni showed us how to eliminate all the headaches we experienced and we achieved ROI within just a few months.”

—IT Senior Manager

“Our previous backup system was complex and had a lot of moving parts to it—we weren’t comfortable with the quality of backups we were getting, and it was becoming increasingly difficult to manage. We needed a system that was more streamlined, stable and reliable. Nasuni was the obvious choice.”

—Backup Administrator
Large State University

The Solution: Nasuni Cloud File Services Platform

Nasuni® is a file services platform built for the cloud, deployed on AWS and powered by the world’s only global file system, UniFS®. Nasuni consolidates Network-Attached Storage (NAS) and file server silos in AWS, delivering infinite scale, built-in backup, global file sharing, and local file server performance—all at half the cost of traditional file infrastructures. The Nasuni software-as-a-service platform is most often used for NAS consolidation; backup and recovery modernization; multi-site file sharing; and rapid, infrastructure-free disaster recovery. But it is increasingly serving as a foundation for data analytics and multi-cloud IT initiatives.

The unique “cloud-first” architecture of Nasuni offers the best of both worlds: the scalability, durability, and low cost of on-premises or public cloud object storage, and the high performance and application compatibility of traditional file servers and NAS solutions. In deployments across multiple leading universities, the Nasuni platform has also proven to be an ideal fit for the unique needs of higher education providers.



The Nasuni Advantage for Educational Institutions

Consolidated NAS & File Storage Footprint—Move file infrastructure silos to the cloud, simplifying management, and replace capacity planning with infinite scale without latency on AWS public or on private cloud storage.

Eliminate Traditional Backups—Eliminate traditional file backup infrastructure and gain instant file recovery with Continuous File Versioning®.

Share Files Across Campuses—Streamline collaboration with file sharing that combines local performance and cloud scale.

Get Instant DR—Recover from disasters anywhere in minutes without separate infrastructure.

Avoid Cloud “Lock-in”—Chose your cloud and avoid ‘lock-in’ with Nasuni’s support for all major public and private clouds.

Leverage Cloud Services—Enable the use of AI & analytics tools by making all files accessible through one global file system.

Budget Friendly—Enjoy a simplified environment that is more scalable and flexible for half the cost of a traditional file infrastructure.

Contact Us

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