Applies to: Staff, Student Employees, Primary Investigators, Users, OSC Affiliates

Responsible Department	**Client Services**

POLICY

Version 1.2   **Issued: 04/28/2022**

Purpose of the Policy

This policy defines OSC standards and procedures when a user requests to extend the walltime on running batch jobs. OSC seeks to meet the client's needs while maintaining healthy environments of the HPC systems and lowering the impacts on other clients.

Definitions

Term	Definition
walltime	The maximum time the job can run, i.e., the requested time limits

Policy Details

OSC clients use computing resources at OSC primarily through the batch processing system. When a job is submitted, the walltime limit defines the maximum amount of time that the job can run. It is not uncommon that a user underestimates the walltime in the job request and later needs to extend the walltime on the running job, to avoid the job being killed due to exceeding the walltime limit.

I. The maximum walltime to which a job may be extended is 30 days (720 hours) due to:
  A. The security patch policy window of 30 days
  B. Minimizing the impact to jobs from hardware failures
II. The maximum walltime to which an interactive OnDemand session may be extended is 7 days (168 hours).
III. OSC retains the right to determine whether the walltime extension request will be fulfilled or rejected. Cases in which walltime extensions may not be granted include but are not limited to:
  A. An application that can use checkpoint files to restart
  B. The job is running on reserved or dedicated condo resources as the backfilled job
  C. The job is running on resources in high demand (such as GPU or large memory nodes, using certain licensed packages) such that the walltime extension will significantly impact the accessibility of these special resources by other clients
  D. The job originally requested less than 24 hours of walltime
  E. The request is from a restricted user or a user using a restricted project account

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OSC Policies

F. Any VDI job from OnDemand

G. Any pending or held jobs (OSC will instruct users to do the walltime extension themselves)

IV. Only the job owner is eligible to request the walltime extension.

    A. No approval is needed from the PI or project admin. However, the job owner should be aware of the possible increase of the job charge causing by the walltime extension request and discuss this with PI if needed.

    B. OSC will reject the request if any rejection from the PI or project admin is received before walltime action is taken; OSC will change the walltime back to the original or kill the job immediately if any rejection from the PI or project admin is received after walltime action is taken

Policy Procedure

Usage

I. Request walltime extension of job(s)

    A. A user can request to extend the walltime anytime, but a request submitted to OSC Help less than four normal business hours before the job(s) is terminated by the walltime limit may not be fulfilled

        1. For instance, if a user contacts OSC Help to request a walltime extension on Saturday, OSC may not be able to grant the extension for the job(s) terminated due to the walltime before 1 p.m. on Monday

    B. The user should provide the following information:

        1. OSC username

        2. Job ID(s) that needs walltime extension

        3. Which cluster

        4. The new walltime limit

        5. Brief justifications

Responsibilities

Position or Department	Responsibilities
Client Services	Confirm the request meets the criteria, perform walltime extension, communicate with clients

Resources

Contacts

Subject	Department	Telephone	E-mail/URL
Policy questions	Client Services	1-800-686-6472	policy@osc.edu

History

Issued: 06/07/2021 Issued 'Job Walltime Extension'

Revised: 08/31/2021 Added 'Job cost'

Revised: 04/28/2022 Updated 'the extension job of Interactive jobs'