

Authentication options for schools

Streamline access to your digital collection

We provide a variety of secure authentication options for your Sora collection. You can offer students and staff access to Sora in whatever way works best for you, via integration with one of your school's existing systems.

Google Workspace Integration – *Students sign in using their school Google account*

Sora supports SSO integration with your school's Google Workspace. To get started, all you need to do is install Sora, by OverDrive for Google Workspace. From there, our Integration Support team will work closely with you to complete the setup.

Federated Authentication – *Authentication via SAML v2.0*

Sora can authenticate users with a federated authentication server using SAML v2.0. Common federated identity providers include Shibboleth, Microsoft, Ping Identity, Okta, and ClassLink. Once your server is linked with Sora, users signing into your collection will be directed to your authentication server sign-in page to enter their credentials. Your authentication server will then validate users and, if the user is valid, the server will pass back an encrypted response to Sora. The server only needs to pass Sora one unique identifier per user, such as an email address.

LDAP Authentication – *Allow network sign-in integration*

Sora can authenticate users with your LDAP server and their existing network username and password. Once you enable Sora access, the username and password entered in Sora are passed to LDAP to validate the user.

Direct ILS/LMS Authentication – *Authentication via an existing user database*

If you use an ILS/LMS such as Atrium, Alexandria, Destiny, Ill, or SirsiDynix, Sora can send authentication requests to your existing user database with SIP2 or PatronAPI. Once you enable Sora access, a user can sign into your collection with their credentials. Note that some ILS/LMS vendors require an additional module to support authentication with Sora.

Web Service Authentication – *Authentication via web server*

Web service authentication allows Sora to authenticate users by sending a request to your web server via either GET or POST. When a user attempts to sign into Sora, an authentication request is submitted to the web server and the web server returns an XML or JSON authorization response indicating the status of the user.

For more information on Sora's authentication options, email schools@overdrive.com.

Existing partners can contact their Product Support Specialist or asksora@overdrive.com for more information