

# ALD File Secure Transport Methods FAQs

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## Federal Reserve Secure Message Center (ZixMail)

- What is the Federal Reserve Secure Message Center?
  - [FRSecure Email](#) (also called ZixMail) enables depository institutions to send their ALD files and accompanying transmittals to their Federal Reserve Bank in an encrypted format.
- What are the advantages to using the Federal Reserve Secure Message Center?
  - Ease of set-up and use.
  - Used by most depository institutions sending ALD files to their Reserve Bank.
  - Includes malware scanning.
- What type of depository institution is best suited to use the Federal Reserve Secure Message Center?
  - Depository institutions that do not already have mandatory TLS email encryption set up with the Federal Reserve and which send ALD files that do not exceed 40MB.
- How does a depository institution obtain access to the Federal Reserve Secure Message Center?
  - Contact your local Federal Reserve Bank [discount window collateral staff](#) and ask for the [FRSecure Message Center Getting Started Guide](#).
- How long does it take to set up?
  - It only takes a few minutes for each depository institution staff member that will send ALD files to the Reserve Bank to establish an account.
- How much does it cost to use the Federal Reserve Secure Message Center?
  - There is no cost for depository institutions to use the [FRSecure Message Center](#).
- Where can depository institutions get more information?
  - Contact your local Federal Reserve Bank [discount window collateral staff](#).

## Email with Mandatory Transport Layer Security (TLS)

- What is Email with Mandatory TLS?
  - Email with Mandatory TLS provides point-to-point encryption of all emails between the Federal Reserve Bank and a depository institution.
- What are the advantages to establishing Email with Mandatory TLS connection with the Federal Reserve System?
  - Once established, Email with Mandatory TLS automatically encrypts all emails between the Federal Reserve Bank and a depository institution without any additional action by the sender.
  - Existing email virus scanning services work normally
- What types of depository institutions are good candidates for establishing an Email with Mandatory TLS connection with the Federal Reserve System?
  - Depository institutions with multiple business lines which interact with the Federal Reserve on a regular basis.
  - Depository institutions sending ALD files that do not exceed 45MB.
- What is the process for establishing an Email with Mandatory TLS connection with the Federal Reserve System?
  - Contact your local Reserve Bank discount window collateral staff to see if your depository institution currently has an established Email with Mandatory TLS connection. If your depository institution is listed, no further action is required. The ALD file will be automatically encrypted when sending the email to your Federal Reserve Bank.
  - If your depository institution does not currently have an Email with Mandatory TLS connection, the Federal Reserve and the depository institution must agree to set up a dedicated TLS connection in both directions. Contact your local Reserve Bank [discount window collateral staff](#) to obtain the necessary provisioning forms for execution and initiate establishing a connection.
- How long does it take to set up?
  - It typically takes about two weeks after agreements are signed to make the technical changes to establish the connection. The connection is first tested before becoming active.
- How much does it cost to establish a Mandatory TLS connection with the Federal Reserve System?
  - A nominal time investment by technical staff at the depository institution is necessary to establish and test the connection. There is no other cost to use Email with Mandatory TLS.
- Where can depository institutions get more information?
  - Contact your local Federal Reserve Bank [discount window collateral staff](#).

## Intralinks

- What is Intralinks?
  - An externally-hosted, cloud based service which allows interchange of documents and files within an online “exchange.”
  - Facilitates the secure bi-directional exchange of electronic files between the Federal Reserve and the depository institution.
  - The service provides a **temporary repository**, i.e., no long term storage, that is only active for the duration of the business need and is subject to storage limitations.
- What are the advantages to using Intralinks to share files with the Federal Reserve System?
  - Defined access rights for depository institution staff.
  - Accommodates file size of up to 2GB.
- What types of depository institutions are good candidates for using Intralinks with the Federal Reserve System?
  - Depository institutions with large ALD files that exceed the size limits (40 – 45MB) of the [Federal Reserve Secure Message Center](#) (ZixMail) and Email with Mandatory Transport Layer Security methods.
- What is the process for establishing an Intralinks site with the Federal Reserve System?
  - Contact your local Reserve Bank discount window collateral staff to request that an Intralinks exchange be established for sending your ALD files.
  - Depository institutions must provide the Reserve Bank with a list of staff that will use Intralinks for sending ALD files.
- How long does it take to set up?
  - It typically takes about two weeks after a depository institution requests the local Reserve Bank to establish Intralinks to send their ALD files.
- How much does it cost to establish an Intralinks site with the Federal Reserve System?
  - There is no cost for depository institutions to use Intralinks.
- Where can depository institutions get more information?
  - Contact your local Federal Reserve Bank [discount window collateral staff](#).