



Jisc Adobe ETLA 2026 Agreement Overview

Important note – the deadline for joining the agreement this year is July 14th, 2026 and payment must be received by August 7th, 2026 without fail.

The Jisc Adobe ETLA 2026 Agreement is a three year contract. If you choose to join, then your licence start date will be August 14th, 2026 and your licence will end on August 13th, 2029. At the end of the agreement you will need to renew your licence or remove all the software installed under it.

You must purchase at least one of:

Option 1: Institutional Site licence: this provides Adobe Creative Cloud Enterprise Pro Plus Named User licences for all your staff, for use on institutional or their own devices both on and off campus. It also provides Creative Cloud Shared Device Licences for use by all students on all classroom and lab machines on campus.

Option 2: Institutional Site Licence with Adobe Acrobat Express HED for all students: this provides, in addition to the licences in option1, Adobe Acrobat Express Higher Education licences for all students, for use on institution or their own devices both on and off campus.

Option 3: Student (Home Use) Named User licences: Creative Cloud Enterprise Pro Plus Named User licences for students, for use on institutional or their own devices, both on and off campus, with a globally unique 3,000 Premium AI credits per month.

You may purchase just one option, or options 1 and 3, or options 2 and 3.

The Adobe Sign option is only available for those who take one of the Institutional Licences (1 or 2), as are the K12 500 packs for FE and Adobe Substance 3D Assets Pack.

For options 1 and 2, additional terms to aid institutions needing to assist in providing access to students off campus:

SDL deployments of Creative Cloud may now be installed on institution owned loan laptops, that are provided for student use, on and off campus. Subject to a limit of up to 25% of your total student facing classroom/lab machines.

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Licensing Metric for options 1 & 2

The licensing metric is your total staff FTE (academic and non-academic), defined in your HESA return in HE, recorded by the Skills Funding Agency for English colleges or by your national equivalent body for Northern Ireland, Scotland or Wales. NB this may well be different from your Microsoft EES staff figure – if you are unsure as to your current FTE please contact adobe@jisc.ac.uk If that figure is not available then the institution’s latest annual accounts are an acceptable source.

Your staff FTE count will remain fixed for the three years of the agreement, unless your reported staff FTE increases by 10% or more at the first or second anniversary, then your FTE number will be relevelled to match the new figure.

Please note that it is not possible to reduce any licence quantities during the term of the agreement.

Costs

Core licences – you must order one of two options below for your total staff FTE count:

Product	Annual Cost per Staff FTE
Option 1: Adobe Creative Cloud Enterprise Pro Plus for all staff and Adobe Creative Cloud Enterprise Desktop Applications for all students using institutional machines. The Staff Named User licences include 1,000 Premium Generative AI monthly credits and unlimited Standard credits. Please see section below for more information on AI credits	£54.54
Option 2: Adobe Creative Cloud Enterprise Pro Plus for all staff and Adobe Creative Cloud Enterprise Desktop Applications for all students using institutional machines. Adobe Acrobat Express Higher Education for all students. The Staff Named User licences include 1,000 Premium Generative AI monthly credits and unlimited Standard credits. Please see section below for more information on AI credits	£65.24

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Adobe Substance 3D Assets and K12 Student Named User Licences

Product	Annual Cost
Adobe Substance 3D Assets (per campus)	£5,600.00
Adobe Creative Cloud Enterprise K12 Student Named User licences for FE and Sixth Form Colleges, for use on students own devices both on and off campus. NB these may only be issued to students studying at ISCED3 (A-level) or lower. Minimum quantity 500 licences. Please note that K12 licences do not include Adobe Substance products or access to Portfolio and Behance services. Nor do they include Premium Generative AI credits but 250 Standard credits per month are part of the bundle.	£4.13 (per student)

Adobe Sign

Product	Annual Cost
Adobe Sign per Transaction – 500 transaction bundle	£420.00

You may over use Adobe Sign Transactions during the licence year and pay for the overage at year end, at the same cost BUT your baseline number of transactions will be increased in line with the over use.

Example – institution purchases 500 transactions in year one but uses 1,500. At the end of year one, they will be invoiced for 1,000 additional transactions. Years two and three, will be charged at 1,500 transactions each.

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Option 3: HED Student Named User Licences

This option allows Institutions to bulk purchase Adobe Creative Cloud Enterprise Pro Plus Licences for their students to install on their own PC/Mac and mobile device. The licence includes the Adobe Creative Cloud Enterprise Pro Plus desktop applications, mobile applications and cloud services. The Student Home Use Named User licences include 3,000 Premium Generative AI monthly credits and unlimited Standard credits. The 3,000 Premium credits are hard capped. Please see section below for more information on AI credits

Product Description	Annual Unit Cost
Creative Cloud Enterprise Pro Plus Student Named User Licence (minimum 5,000 licences)	£45.73
Creative Cloud Enterprise Pro Plus Student Named User Licence (minimum 1,000 licences)	£60.95
Creative Cloud Enterprise Pro Plus Student Named User Licence (min 500 licences for HE and min 250 licences FE)	£76.15

NB the expectation of this agreement is that at the start Institutions will purchase the number of HED Student Named User Licences that they expect to need in the first year. Adobe may be reviewing the number of licences deployed in August 2026 to ensure that they are broadly in line with those ordered.

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In 2022, Adobe introduced a new way of calculating over-deployment costs, based on over-deployment per month.

For each Month during the License Term, Institutions will track Deployment in excess of the purchased quantity ("Baseline"), including the highest total number of licenses over-Deployed on any given day during the Month (the "Monthly High-Water Mark"), if any. "Month" means a calendar monthly period commencing upon the applicable License Term Start Date (e.g., January 15 through February 14, February 15 through March 14, etc.); note, Months may vary in actual number of calendar days. "Annual Average Over-Deployment Count" means a license count calculated by (i) summing up the Monthly High-Water Mark for each of the 12 Months of the applicable annual term (the Monthly High-Water Mark of the 12th Month is determined as the equivalent of the Monthly High-Water Mark of the 11th Month), and (ii) dividing the sum by 12.

Example: Institution initially purchases 1,000 licences. For the start of the academic year an additional 100 licences are required for a specific three month course module. So, October, November and December all report an over-deployment of 100, with zero for the rest of the year. Thus, the over-deployment for the whole licence year will be $(3*100)/12 = 25$. The annual over-deployment cost will be 25 x full year fee.

In addition to being charged for in year over-deployments. Your baseline for any subsequent years will be increased to include the over-deployment. For example, an initial baseline of 2,000 licences and in year two, an over-deployment of 500, then the year 3 baseline will be invoiced at 2,500 licences.

If your institution expects to over-deploy in years two or three, there is an incentive to pre-order the new licences at the preceding anniversary date, as any new licences will be charged at the higher discount rate price, if your total deployment crosses a pricing barrier. If you just over-deploy during the year, then you will not enjoy the additional discount.

Generative AI credits

The proliferation of generative AI credits, both within Adobe's Creative Cloud products and other vendors' offerings has created greater complexity in licensing arrangements. Jisc has negotiated a number of additional terms and clarifications from Adobe including additional credit entitlement for student named user licences, only available via this ETLA.

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Adobe currently has effectively two types of Generative AI credits: Premium and Standard. Standard credits are generally used for less intensive AI functions, whilst Premium for more intensive ones, such as video. A breakdown can be found here:

<https://helpx.adobe.com/creative-cloud/apps/generative-ai/generative-credits-faq.html#recent-updates>

It is worth keeping an eye on this webpage as new features will be added, as they become available.

1. Higher Ed CCE Pro Plus Student Home Use licences – rather than the usual 1,000 Premium AI credits per month that would come with a standard ETLA, have 3,000 Premium credits per month but with a hard cap. This is unique to the Jisc Adobe ETLA. This means that if a student exceeds the 3,000 credits, their Adobe AI features that require Premium credits will cease working until the next monthly reset (14th of each month).

2. Staff CCE Pro Plus Named User licences – these will have 1,000 Premium credits per month and unlimited Standard ones. The 1,000 Premium credits have a soft cap, which means that if a user exceeds their monthly credit limit, the AI features needing Premium credits will continue to work but performance will be throttled. There is an expectation, but no guarantee, that during the agreement term pooling of AI credits will become available for staff licences, in a similar manner to the storage pooling available under the current agreement.

In addition to the above we have added these following terms around AI features and credit provision to the contract to provide the sector with greater assurances, in what is a very fast moving area:

1. No automatic charging for over usage of AI generative credits. Though institutions will be able to purchase extra credits if required. Initially this will be on a per user basis and will need to be purchased via an Adobe VIP Agreement. In the term of this contract, it may become possible to bulk purchase additional credits on an institutional basis which can then be allocated to your users as required.

2. No degradation of credit value over the contract term e.g. a generative AI feature that consumes 20 credits at the start of the contract will not require more credits for the next three years.

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3. Input into the tools being developed to monitor and manage generative AI credits at an institutional level.

Agreement Start Date

If you wish to join the agreement then you must place an online order/Commitment Form, return a completed signed Participation Letter and a purchase order to Jisc by July 14th. Jisc's invoice must be paid by August 7th, 2026 without fail – this is non-negotiable, **if you are unable to meet this payment deadline you shouldn't join the agreement**. This is to ensure we have sufficient funds to place the consolidated order with Adobe on August 10th.

All payments for annual renewals must be with Jisc by August 7th of the relevant year. Jisc will invoice you up to three months in advance to give plenty of time for payment to reach us. **Again if you are unable to meet these payment deadlines you shouldn't join the agreement.**

If you are a member of the current 2023 ETLA, any new options you choose for your licence e.g. adding Sign, will not appear in your Admin Console until after the consolidated order has been placed with Adobe.

How to commit to join this agreement:

1. Read the Adobe ETLA 2026 Master Agreement – your Institution is a Consortium Member.
2. Complete the online Jisc Adobe ETLA 2026 Commitment Form
3. Read the Jisc Adobe ETLA 2026 Participation Letter. Please note that the Participation Letter has changed from the previous version. On receipt of the online Jisc Adobe ETLA 2026 Commitment Form (see above) Jisc will issue a part-completed Participation Letter via Adobe Sign, based on the information provided in the Commitment Form. Complete the Participation Letter and sign it.
4. Raise a purchase order for the first year's licence fee. All purchase orders must be made out to:

Jisc Services Limited, 4, Portwall Lane, Bristol BS1 6NB

Ensure that 2 & 3 are completed & 4 is sent to help@chest.ac.uk by noon on July 14th. If you do have any queries, then please contact adobe@jisc.ac.uk .

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