Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

Recent Work

Title

ALSHub: How Users Access the Advanced Light Source

Permalink

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/7gb9z3p6>

Journal

Synchrotron Radiation News, 30(1)

ISSN

0894-0886

Authors

Bailey, S
Sibony, M

Publication Date

2017-01-02

DOI

10.1080/08940886.2017.1267580

Peer reviewed

ALSHub: How Users Access the Advanced Light Source

S. BAILEY & M. SIBONY

Advanced Light Source, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, CA, USA

The Advanced Light Source (ALS) rolled out ALSHub, a user portal for all ALS users, in 2014. The functionality within ALSHub has steadily increased since that time. To access the ALS, all potential users need to register and create a profile within ALSHub. The registration is received by ALS staff who use the details to process the record and obtain a unique Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) ID for the person which will be used in all their future interactions with LBNL.

After registration, users may login to ALSHub at any time and from the landing page, which can be viewed in Figure 1, they are able to:

- Tell us when they are coming to the ALS
- Track their current status
- Submit a proposal for beam time
- View the current status of all their proposals
- Complete a experiment safety documents for upcoming experiments
- View their training status and complete online safety training
- Report their publications and search the ALS publications database
- Complete a user satisfaction survey after their experiments

Users obtain access to the ALS by submitting a proposal for the project they intend to complete. There are two general mechanisms open to all users: the General User Proposal cycle with two deadlines a year is for users who want to establish an ongoing program of research over a one or two year period. The RAPIDD proposal process accommodates users requiring limited but rapid access to ALS beam time and proposals may be submitted at any time. Proposals are submitted online and, after processing by ALS staff, they appear on the users' personal proposal list where the user can view and track the proposal through the peer-review and beam time allocation process. Figure 2 gives an example of such a view for the RAPIDD process. At the level shown, the user sees a list of all their current and past proposals. Users can drill down into the links to view the peer review results and the beam time allocated to the proposal. Users can also click on the proposal title to view the proposal PDF describing the science case, and view the safety and experiment details they have reported.

It is critical that ALS knows when users are arriving, preferably with two weeks notice. ALSHub is set up to collect all the appropriate details before each visit. Staff use this information to check that all documents and training are in order before arrival.

In addition to providing a tool for users, proposal reviewers also use ALSHub for online review of proposals. They are able to view the proposals allocated to them and provide scores and comments directly.

Feedback about ALSHub from ALS users is encouraged and has been mostly positive. Users certainly appreciate the single point of entry to their business at ALS, their personalized access to beam time applications, and their ability to track that their LBNL status and safety training are up to date. Perhaps the most popular change has been the access that ALSHub provides to the LBNL publication reporting system, which provides a simple way to upload publications using the doi.

Further upgrades to ALSHub are planned as we work to increase the information available to users. A scheduling tool has been developed which will be used by most ALS beamlines. ALS Scheduler will allow users to check when their beam time is scheduled, and will send automatic reminders to users to complete safety documents before their arrival. It is already available to ALS staff and will be rolled out to users in early 2017. A development project to replace the Experiment Safety Sheet (ESS) process with a fully online safety process is also underway.

Welcome SBAiley2@lbl.govMy AccountLog Out

ALSHub
Advanced Light Source User Portal

BERKELEY LAB
LAWRENCE BERKELEY NATIONAL LABORATORY

HomeContactALS User GuideALS Facility HomepageStaff Access

You are here > [Home](#)

Welcome Susan

Proposals

[View and submit proposals](#)

[Review proposals](#)

Prepare for your visit

[Update your profile to tell us you're coming](#)

[Complete online safety training](#)

[Facilities available for Users](#)

Safety: prepare for your experiment

[Complete experiment safety document \(ESS\)](#)

After your visit

[Report and search for publications](#)

[Complete a user satisfaction survey](#)

LBNL #:004797

ALS Access:✓ LBNL ID Active

User Agreement:✓ Complete

Safety Training:✓ Complete

Planning a visit?

Please update your profile to tell us when you're coming.

I'm coming on-site

Have questions?

Take a look at the [user guide](#). If you're still unsure, please visit the [contact](#) page to direct your inquiry.

[Webmaster](#) [Privacy & Security](#) [Contact Us](#)

The Advanced Light Source is an Office of Science User Facility operated for the U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Science by Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

Figure 1: Landing page of ALSHub, the ALS user portal providing users with data on their current status at ALS, and links to submit proposals and safety documents.

Advanced Light Source

An Office of Science User Facility

[Home](#) [New RAPIDD Proposal](#)

Welcome Susan Bailey - User Services View

Your Submitted Proposals

ID (Click to open)	Title	ExpLead/PI	Beamline	Shifts Requested	Shifts Allocated	Beamline Scientist Flags	PR Scores	Avg Score	User Agreement	Proprietary	Date Submitted	Date Scheduled	Status	Safety	Exp Details	Review by Date	UD Comments
1 PRT-00005	Minnesota structural biology experiments	Bailey/Bailey	4.2.2	200	0			0			11/18/16	00/00/00	Review Completed	PRT-00005	PRT-00005	12/9/16	
2 RA-00002	7.3.3 Test	Bailey/Bailey	7.3.3	3	0			0			7/11/13	00/00/00	Inactive	RA-00002	RA-00002	8/1/13	
3 DD-00003	test	Bailey/Kevan	4.0.3.2	1	0			0			5/30/13	00/00/00	Inactive	DD-00003	DD-00003	6/20/13	
4 DD-00002	test	Bailey/Bailey	12.0.1.1	1	0			0			5/30/13	00/00/00	Inactive	DD-00002	DD-00002	6/20/13	
5 RA-00001	Test 8.3.2 proposal	Bailey/MacDowell	8.3.2	3	0			0			4/18/13	00/00/00	Inactive	RA-00001	RA-00001	5/9/13	
6 DD-00001	Another DD aspt	Bailey/Kevan	12.0.2	7	0			0			3/20/13	00/00/00	Inactive	DD-00001	DD-00001	4/10/13	

Figure 1: Example of the list of proposals that users may view. Users may click on links to drill down to further information for each proposal