



GEO TECHNICAL ANALYSIS FOR ACADEMICS

Product Support FAQs



PLAXIS®



GeoStudio

Geotechnical Analysis Academic Offerings

To help you get the most out of our academic options, we've answered some frequently asked questions below. Read on to discover how these changes will support your teaching, learning, and research goals.

Overview

What are the Geotechnical Analysis academic offerings?

There are three options available for GeoStudio and PLAXIS Geotechnical Analysis solutions available to those in academia:

- Free Academic option: Start learning with PLAXIS and GeoStudio at no cost. Perfect for students to gain hands-on experience with industry-standard geotechnical analysis tools.
- Classroom WorkSuite option: An affordable software bundle for universities, combining advanced PLAXIS and GeoStudio features. Ideal for professors teaching core undergraduate topics to students and enabling collaborative learning.
- Research option: Tailored for professors, researchers, and PhD candidates. Access the most advanced PLAXIS and GeoStudio capabilities, as well as tailor-building the perfect bundle for complex geotechnical analysis research projects at a cost-effective rate.



Why are we making this change?

This change allows us to make geotechnical learning more accessible to students and educators worldwide. It also marks a key step in modernising our software by unifying PLAXIS and GeoStudio into a single, integrated Geotechnical Analysis Academic program.

We are investing in the future of the industry. We're committed to supporting aspiring geoprofessionals and the educators who are dedicated to their success.



What are the benefits of our academic options?

By joining our Academic Program, universities unlock a range of benefits designed to support their educational goals.

You'll partner with a dedicated academic team committed to helping you achieve your objectives, and enjoy simplified software access across your university.

Our new options offer a seamless, unified workflow between PLAXIS and GeoStudio, providing access to a versatile suite of tools. This empowers you to better prepare the next generation of geoprofessionals, all at a budget-friendly rate designed for academic institutions.

Program options and eligibility

How do I choose the option that's right for my needs?

Selecting the right subscription depends on your specific goals, whether you're a student just starting, an educator teaching a class, or a researcher working on advanced projects.

SUBSCRIPTION OPTION OVERVIEW

Option	Pricing	Best for	Use case	What's included
Free Academic option	Free	Undergraduate students and professors	Open to all university students and professors. To gain access, simply register through the Bentley Education portal and complete a quick validation of your academic status. Once approved, you'll have access to the software	Offers access to individual basic tiers of PLAXIS and GeoStudio (2D and 3D) with 1 seat per tier and annual credential review by the Bentley Education Program.
Classroom WorkSuite option	Paid	University departments	Suited for students and professors from university departments who are involved in teaching or learning within accredited degree level courses and labs that need multiple seats and features beyond the Free Academic option. Please choose the 2D or 3D bundle based on your curriculum.	Offers two packages, each with a minimum of 25 seats for comprehensive undergraduate teaching: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geotechnical Analysis 2D Classroom WorkSuite: Includes PLAXIS 2D Ultimate, GeoStudio 2D Ultimate, and GeoStudio 2D Flow. Geotechnical Analysis 3D Classroom WorkSuite: Includes PLAXIS 3D Ultimate, GeoStudio 3D Advanced, and GeoStudio 3D Flow.
Research option	Paid	Professors, researchers, and PhD candidates	Suited for professors, researchers, and PhD candidates conducting advanced geotechnical research who require top-tier capabilities in individual PLAXIS and GeoStudio products.	Provides a fixed package of two seats for each of the following advanced individual products: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PLAXIS: PLAXIS 2D Ultimate, PLAXIS 3D Ultimate, PLAXIS Monopile Designer GeoStudio: GeoStudio 2D Ultimate, GeoStudio 3D Advanced, GeoStudio 2D Flow or GeoStudio 3D Flow.

Can private research organizations get access to academic pricing?

Our academic pricing is exclusively available to accredited universities and educational institutions for non-profit, teaching, and student research purposes. Private and commercial research organizations are not eligible for academic rates and can purchase a standard commercial license. Get more information about commercial licenses for [PLAXIS](#) and [GeoStudio](#). Research licenses are specifically for professors, PhD's, and post-docs to select the most advanced versions of the software, which are not available in the other product offerings, whereby they can individually select the exact products they need into a tailor-made bundle.

Licence periods, legal agreements, and renewals

What licensing types and subscription periods are offered?

Paid subscriptions use Practitioner (named) entitlements available as pre-paid annual or pre-paid 3-year terms. The Free Academic option uses Student entitlements with an annual credential review.

Do we need to assign legal agreements to use the academic subscriptions?

Yes, a new academic agreement is required for the completion of the sales. This ensures that both your institution and Bentley are aligned on the terms of use of the software.

GeoStudio and PLAXIS's new perpetual license sales for universities are immediately suspended until the availability of new offers.

How do renewals of paid subscriptions work?

The agreement signed between the university and Bentley will automatically renew unless either party gives written notice of its election not to renew the term at least 30 days prior to the expiration of the then-current term ("License Term").

The agreement signed between the university and Seequent (GeoStudio) will be renewed with the relevant academic manager/sales operations support team.

Pricing

How does academic pricing compare to commercial rates?

Our academic prices are either free or significantly reduced compared to commercial licenses, to make our industry-leading software accessible for educational use.

How does the new academic pricing compare to the previous PLAXIS model?

Our new academic subscriptions are designed for greater flexibility and accessibility. By transitioning from perpetual licenses to a subscription model, we've eliminated the significant upfront investment previously required. Universities now benefit from a more approachable entry price, an increased number of seats for classroom use, and access to a modernized software suite that now includes GeoStudio.

Can I purchase a subscription for longer than one year?

Yes. For universities that prefer to make a single, upfront investment for a longer term, we offer three-year prepaid subscriptions for both the Classroom WorkSuite and the Research options.

How can I request pricing for the new academic subscriptions?

For detailed pricing information, you can visit our [academic program page](#) to submit an inquiry. A member of our team will then reach out to you directly with a personalized quote based on your needs.

Are regional currencies supported?

Yes, we support regional currencies. While our base pricing is quoted in USD, we also offer pricing in several local currencies to accommodate our global users.

Migration from existing offers

What happens to my existing PLAXIS Classroom and Academic WorkSuite SELECT contract?

If you have an active PLAXIS Classroom WorkSuite or Academic SELECT subscription, you can choose to continue under your current contract terms. However, please note that PLAXIS LE, which is included in this bundle, is being retired. Access and renewals for PLAXIS LE under these contracts will end on October 1, 2026.

Alternatively, we are offering incentives to migrate to the new academic subscriptions. This would allow your institution to immediately benefit from our modernised product suite, which combines PLAXIS and GeoStudio under a more flexible and accessible subscription model.

What happens to existing GeoStudio academic contracts?

We have developed a transition plan for our current GeoStudio academic customers, with options tailored to your specific subscription type.

To ensure a smooth transition, please be assured that all current GeoStudio academic subscriptions will remain active and fully supported for one additional year. The available options for your renewal are outlined in the table below.

Your current subscription	Transition options
GeoStudio Classroom Subscription (Annual)	Your subscription will be seamlessly transitioned to the new Classroom WorkSuite, ensuring you automatically receive all the benefits of the updated program upon renewal.
GeoStudio Academic (Perpetual)	You will have several choices: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintain your perpetual license under a standard commercial maintenance plan• Migrate to a new academic subscription with available incentives• Choose not to renew

What happens to existing PLAXIS LE students from the Bentley Education Program?

Effective immediately, PLAXIS LE will no longer be available for new downloads from the Bentley Education program. Students currently using PLAXIS LE are encouraged to transition to GeoStudio, which is its official successor. While existing installations of PLAXIS LE may continue to work temporarily, please be aware that all access to PLAXIS LE will be fully discontinued on October 1, 2026.

How do existing PLAXIS Worksuite Classroom or Academic SELECT subscribers migrate to a new subscription?

The best way to get in touch is by contacting your account manager directly. Alternatively, please submit an enquiry on the [Seequent academic page](#) or [Bentley education page](#), and we will get you in touch with the right team. If you are interested in a renewal, our team will renew you onto the new subscription.

Note: If you'd like to remain under the current SELECT licenses, you can do so. We are continuing to support SELECT for the time being, but we will be terminating PLAXIS LE.

Are there incentives for current academic customers to migrate?

Yes. We are offering a 25% discount on the first year of any new paid subscription for academic customers who choose to migrate. This incentive is available upon the trade-in of your existing licenses and is subject to our licensing terms.

Technical support and training

Am I eligible for technical support with the new subscriptions?

Yes, active subscribers can open [technical support tickets](#).

Where can I find training and learning materials?

We offer a variety of resources across two main platforms to support your learning journey.

For general learning and student resources

The [Bentley Education portal](#) provides a wide range of learning content tailored to the software available in the academic program.

For in-depth product training

The [Seequent Learning Center](#) offers more comprehensive training courses and in-depth product resources to complement the materials on the Bentley Education site.

Licensing and administration

How will licenses be assigned to students and professors?

The assignment process depends on the type of option.

For Classroom WorkSuite and Research options

Following the purchase, the institution's contract administrator will receive a fulfillment document that contains detailed instructions for software downloads and license assignment. The administrator can then assign licenses directly to individual users, such as students and professors.

For Free Academic options

Access is granted through a simple, automated process. Once a student or professor registers and their academic status is verified via the [Bentley Education](#) portal, the software entitlement is automatically linked to their account. Step-by-step instructions are available in the portal's [FAQ section](#).

Who can assist with the purchase and management of subscriptions?

Our dedicated teams are here to help you with the sales and management of our academic subscriptions. You can connect with any of the following groups for support or to make a purchase:

- Sequent Academics Team
- Bentley Product Sales Teams
- Our Authorized Channel Partners

Timelines and communications

How can I stay informed of these changes?

Customers can expect to receive information via direct email and are always welcome to check for updates on the [Sequent Academic Program](#) and [Bentley Education](#) websites.

Next steps

We're interested. What should we do now?

Our team is happy to support you; please follow up through the appropriate channels below.

Existing customers

If you are an existing customer, please reach out to your account manager. You can also reach out by email at educationsupport@bentley.com

For the Free Academic option

Register directly on the Bentley Education site to apply for a free individual license.

[Register through Bentley Education](#)

For Classroom WorkSuite option or Research option:

Register on our Sequent Academic Program page. Our team will help you select the right offer, plan your budget, and review migration incentives.

[Register through Sequent Academics](#)