

Digital Preservation Services from the UConn Library

Total Cost of Preservation (TCP)
January 2023

Each year the CTDA calculates the total cost of preservation using a formula based on work done by the California Digital Library's UC3 Curation Center (https://cdlib.org/services/uc3/). The CTDA's formula considers not just direct salaries of CTDA staff and direct software costs, but also the indirect costs associated with maintaining a digital preservation infrastructure. Details of how we calculate the TCP for the CTDA are available on request. At the CTDA, the TCP is expressed in cost per Terabyte preserved in both a yearly cost and a Pay Once Store Forever (POSF) cost where the cost of preservation is amortized over the life of the repository program.

The CTDA offers storage to its members on a discounted basis, charging only 15% of the TCP/TB for its yearly subscription or POSF offerings to its members. The difference between the TCP and the charged rate can be used as in-kind cost share for grant projects including preservation storage in their applications. The CTDA has been able to keep the costs for storage flat from 2021–2023 during a time where all organizations are under inflationary pressures from external sources, thus providing more predictability in the cost of storage to include in project and grant funding programs.

2023	Yearly	POSF
Actual Cost/TB	\$5,942	\$59,420
Subsidized Cost/TB	\$832	\$8,230
Subsidy useable as in-kind/TB	\$4,669	\$46,690

