FAQ

- Q. Can I get root access to my compute nodes?
  A. That is not possible. The compute nodes get their image from the head node and have to remain the same. If you need to install software that needs root access, for example, you can install the software to your home directories. See this example.

- Q. Do you allow users to NFS mount their own storage onto the compute nodes?
  A. No. We NFS mount storage across all compute nodes so that data is available independent of which compute nodes are used. See this section for how to transfer data.

- Q. Why can’t I log in?
  A. You haven’t created an account yet
  A. Your account isn’t sponsored yet
  A. You aren’t using two-factor authentication (NetID+)

- Q. Can I run programs on the login nodes?
  A. Well yes. But only for testing your code and not for more than an hour. Jobs running on the head node are subject to being terminated if we think they are affecting other users of the login nodes.

- Q. What does this error mean - pcmem (32gb != 6gb,42gb)
  A. pcmem is per core memory. Each node has a fixed amount of memory and number of cores. All of the standard nodes have 168GB memory allocated to PBS and 28 cores. 168 / 28 = 6. The high memory node has a ratio of 42GB. So those are the only valid options

- Q. Why not use Windfall with OnDemand?
  A. Windfall jobs can be preempted by a higher priority queue. Each session creates an interactive job on a node. It is unsatisfactory to be dumped in the middle of that session. A desktop session would have the same unpleasant result. Windfall can be used if you do not have enough standard time left. Consider though that a one hour session using one compute core only takes up 1 cpu hour out of your group’s 36,000 hours.