

Oracle Business Intelligence Enterprise Edition (OBIEE) - Common Questions
(Last updated: 10/01/2020)

1. Why are we doing this project?
 - a. The 'Oracle Hyperion Interactive Reporting Studio' (Hyperion/Brio) product is at its end of life with Oracle. The state has a license that will last through 6/30/22. Once this ends, the state must be off of this product because it is no longer supported and at risk for failure. OBIEE is the replacement querying tool. It is highly recommended that users convert to the new platform as soon as possible.
2. When was the official start of the OBIEE project?
 - a. On 11/27/17, the Datamart Admin received an endorsement letter from the OSCIO's office to officially begin the project. In addition, an email was sent to the Datamart news list, alerting users that DAS is starting this project.
3. How do I find up-to-date information about what is happening with the project?
 - a. Users should sign up for the Datamart news list (<http://listsmart.osl.state.or.us/mailman/listinfo/datamart-news>), for periodic project updates.
 - b. Check out the Datamart website: <https://www.oregon.gov/das/Financial/AcctgSys/Pages/datamart.aspx>
4. Will I be able to continue to use Hyperion?
 - a. Yes, you will be able to continue to use Hyperion. The state has a license that will last through 6/30/22. Once this ends, the state must be off of all Hyperion licenses.
5. What is the new application costing my agency?
 - a. The initial start-up costs are already included in the biennial budget.
 - b. Going forward, data usage and server costs will be monitored closely and will be reflected in the budget, no different than in the past.
6. Is the Datamart changing?
 - a. The Datamart is *staying the same*. However, the enterprise-wide querying tool is changing from Hyperion to OBIEE. If you use other querying tools (i.e., MS-Excel, MS-Access), those remains the same.
 - b. All load times will be on the standard schedule (shown on the Datamart website – Processing Calendar).
7. What kind of platform will this product be installed?
 - a. The Datamart admin has procured a server edition of the product and it is setup at the State Data Center (SDC).
8. Can my agency volunteer to test the new product?
 - a. Volunteers tested the product from June 2019 to June 2020. This was as big success and helped greatly to move this project forward.
9. When will the product go live?
 - a. The official 'Go Live' date was August 2020. The Datamart team is rolling out the product to agencies over a four month period. This will help to not overwhelm the security team.
10. Will techs be able to install the product on users' desktops?
 - a. There will be no need for agency techs to install the application. It is housed on a server at the SDC and will be accessed through using the internet.

11. Can my agency start to download and use OBIEE or other various Oracle software?
 - a. Agencies should contact the DAS OSCIO's office to determine how best to move forward with any Oracle products.
12. How will I access the new product?
 - a. Users will log in through a web portal. (Prod: <https://obi.das.oregon.gov:9503/analytics/>).
 - b. There is a production and test environment. Users will work within production and admin in test.
13. Will there be training?
 - a. Yes, training is provided through iLearn.
 - b. The Datamart admin team will be looking into alternative training as well (Skype, etc.).
14. What kind of software license agreement does the state have with Oracle?
 - a. The state has an Unlimited License Agreement (ULA) with Oracle through June 2022, which provides the application at minimal costs. Once the contract is over, the state will pay the annual maintenance fee for the application.
15. Are there any limits on users or restrictions to using the new product?
 - a. There are no limits or restrictions to using the new product in this environment.
16. Will agencies be able to access internal databases?
 - a. Currently, agencies will not be able to access internal databases; however, this feature will be available in the future and the Datamart admin will be determining how best to roll out this type of process.
17. Will the new application have updated firewall requirements?
 - a. Yes, the firewall is set for the new OBIEE server.
 - b. Agencies must be on the State network to be able to use the OBIEE website and log into the application.
18. What type of security access does the OBIEE application use?
 - a. The OBIEE application has been set up with a new type of security access. Users are input on a 'Shared Active Directory' or 'Shared AD'. A user must be included in the Shared AD, prior to obtaining security access to the product. This access is a *critical* piece of the process to fully set up your Datamart users with OBIEE access.
 - b. This is the same 'Shared AD' used for authentication to the @oregon.gov enterprise email system and the enterprise data backup CommVault portal.
 - c. Each agency has IT that will be in charge of their OBIEE users in the Shared AD.
 - d. If you have additional questions about the Shared AD, please contact DAS DCS unit (Dewayne Weaver).
19. Will we use our standard RACF log-in and password as we have used in the past?
 - a. OBIEE does not use RACF. As per above, the new security is based on a Shared AD. This access will use your email address (with '@oregon.gov' at the end) as the log-in. Passwords will be based on your agency status with the Shared AD. Agency Security Officer's (ASO) need to talk with their internal IT department to confirm status of the Shared AD.
 - b. For non-OBIEE querying tools (IR-Studio, MS-Excel, MS-Access), it is still the same standard RACF log-in and password.

20. How do I obtain security access to OBIEE?
- a. Work with your ASO to obtain OBIEE security access.
 - b. The ASO fills out and submits the new security form from DAS SARS System Security.
 - c. All users must be in the Shared AD to be able to obtain OBIEE security access.
 - d. ASO must be approved to request OBIEE security access. There is an approval form on the SARS site.
21. Are there any new features of the application that I should be aware of?
- a. There is a 'scheduling' function built into the new application that should help users immensely.
 - b. There is an updated formula creation, which users will need to learn.
 - c. Please attend training to learn about more features.
22. Does this product work with Microsoft products (Excel, Word, etc.)?
- a. This product does work with standard Microsoft products. It has the capability to export data to Microsoft applications. The Datamart team has found that CSV file exportation is the preferred method to export.
23. Will there be a Datamart Repository as with Hyperion?
- a. Yes, the Datamart team will build a new Repository for the OBIEE product. This will take time as it is all new; however, with your help, we can make it a great resource for all.
 - b. When a user creates a new repository file, it should be saved to the 'Shared folders/Repository/Test/' directory. Once approved, the file will be moved to the 'final' folder within the same directory.