



# Data Storage & Privacy Policy

**Last Updated:** October 16, 2025







**Effective Date:** October 16, 2025



## Quick Summary

This application uses **localStorage** (browser local storage) to save your form progress locally on your device. All data is **encrypted with your personal passphrase** before being stored using military-grade AES-GCM 256-bit encryption.

### Key Points:

-  **100% Client-Side:** All encryption happens in your browser
-  **You Control Everything:** You choose when to save, load, or delete
-  **Military-Grade Encryption:** AES-GCM 256-bit encryption with PBKDF2 key derivation
-  **No Server Storage:** Your data never leaves your device
-  **No Size Limits:** localStorage can handle large, complex forms (5-10 MB typical limit)
-  **Your Responsibility:** If you forget your passphrase, your data is unrecoverable



## What Is localStorage?

localStorage is a browser feature that allows websites to store data on your device (computer, tablet, or mobile phone). Unlike cookies:

- **Larger Capacity:** 5-10 MB (vs 4 KB for cookies)
- **Persistent:** Data remains until explicitly deleted
- **Client-Side Only:** Never sent to servers automatically
- **Per-Origin:** Each website has its own isolated storage

In our application, localStorage serves **one primary purpose**: to allow you to safely close your browser without losing your progress on complex forms and data entry.

# How We Use localStorage

Our localStorage usage is **100% user-controlled and privacy-focused**:

1. **Opt-In Only**: We never store data without your explicit action
2. **Encrypted Always**: All data is encrypted before storage
3. **User-Controlled**: You decide when to save, load, or delete
4. **No Tracking**: We don't track your usage or behavior
5. **No Third-Party Sharing**: Your data stays on your device

## What Gets Stored

When you click "Save Data for Later":

- Form field values (encrypted)
- Job demands table selections (encrypted)
- Work schedule information (encrypted)
- All other form inputs (encrypted)

## What Does NOT Get Stored

- Your passphrase (never stored anywhere)
- Browsing history
- Personal identifiers
- Analytics data

# Security & Encryption

## Encryption Technology

We use **Web Crypto API** with industry-standard encryption:

Feature	Technology	Details
Encryption Algorithm	AES-GCM	256-bit Advanced Encryption Standard
Key Derivation	PBKDF2	100,000 iterations with SHA-256

Feature	Technology	Details
Initialization Vector	Random	12 bytes, unique per encryption
Salt	Random	16 bytes, unique per encryption
Authentication	GCM Mode	Built-in authentication tag

## How It Works

1. **You enter a passphrase** (e.g., "MySecretPhrase123")
2. **Key derivation:** Your passphrase is converted to a cryptographic key using PBKDF2 with 100,000 iterations
3. **Random salt & IV:** Unique random values are generated for this encryption
4. **Encryption:** Your form data is encrypted using AES-GCM 256-bit
5. **Storage:** The encrypted data (+ salt + IV) is stored in localStorage
6. **Decryption:** Only someone with your exact passphrase can decrypt the data

## Security Guarantees

- ✔ **Military-Grade:** AES-256 is approved for TOP SECRET information by the NSA
- ✔ **Brute-Force Resistant:** PBKDF2 with 100,000 iterations makes password cracking extremely slow
- ✔ **Authenticated:** GCM mode prevents tampering with encrypted data
- ✔ **Unique Per Session:** Random salt and IV ensure each encryption is unique

## User Risks & Responsibilities

## What You Need to Know

This is a convenience feature, not a security vault. By using this feature, you acknowledge:

### 1. Device Security

- Anyone with access to your device can potentially access your data
- If your device is compromised (malware, keylogger), your data may be at risk
- Physical access to your unlocked device = access to your data

## 2. Passphrase Security

- If you forget your passphrase, your data is **PERMANENTLY LOST**
- There is no "password recovery" or "reset password" option
- We cannot help you recover your data if you forget your passphrase
- Choose a passphrase you will remember

## 3. Browser Storage

- Clearing browser data will delete your saved information
- Uninstalling your browser will delete your saved information
- Browser updates or crashes may corrupt localStorage data

## 4. No Backup

- Data is only stored on this device
- If you lose your device, you lose your data
- We do not have copies of your data

## Legal Disclaimer

### BY USING THIS FEATURE, YOU AGREE THAT:

- You use this feature at your own risk
- We are not liable for any data loss, theft, or compromise
- You will not hold us responsible for security breaches on your device
- You understand the technical limitations and accept them



## Managing Your Data

### How to Control Your Data

#### Option 1: Use Our Built-In Controls

- **Save Data:** Click "Save for Later" button (stores encrypted data in localStorage)
- **Load Data:** Click "Load Saved Data" and enter your passphrase
- **Clear Data:** Click "Clear Saved Data" (removes all stored data)

## Option 2: Browser Settings

You can also manage localStorage through your browser:

### Chrome/Edge:

1. Press `F12` to open Developer Tools
2. Go to "Application" tab
3. Click "Local Storage" → your site URL
4. Right-click → "Clear"

### Firefox:

1. Press `F12` to open Developer Tools
2. Go to "Storage" tab
3. Click "Local Storage" → your site URL
4. Right-click → "Delete All"

### Safari:

1. Preferences → Privacy → Manage Website Data
2. Find your site → Remove

## Data Expiration

- Saved data is marked to expire after **30 days**
- The application will show you how many days remain
- Expired data is automatically cleared on next visit



## Detailed Storage Information

### Our localStorage Items

Item Name	Purpose	Encrypted	Size
userFormData	Your encrypted form data	✓ Yes	Variable (typically 10-500 KB)
hasStoredData	Flag indicating data exists	✗ No	~10 bytes
dataExpiration	Timestamp for expiration	✗ No	~20 bytes

## Third-Party Cookies (QuillJS CDN)

The QuillJS rich text editor library (loaded from CDN) may set analytics cookies:

Cookie Name	Provider	Purpose	Duration
_ga	Google Analytics	Track QuillJS library usage	~2 years
_ga_*	Google Analytics	Enhanced analytics	~2 years

**Note:** These cookies track library usage statistics, **NOT your personal form data**. Your encrypted form data is completely separate and inaccessible to these analytics.



## Migration from Cookies

**Previous Version:** This application previously used cookies for storage (limited to 4 KB)

**Current Version:** Now uses localStorage (5-10 MB capacity)

## Automatic Migration

If you have data saved in the old cookie format:

1. The application will automatically detect it
2. When you load your data, it will be migrated to localStorage
3. Old cookies will be automatically cleaned up
4. **Same security:** Encryption method is identical



## Contact Information

If you have questions about this storage policy:

- **Email:** [austinsteil21@gmail.com](mailto:austinsteil21@gmail.com)
- **GitHub:** [Report an Issue](#)

## Version History

- **v2.0.0** (2025-10-16): Migrated from cookies to localStorage for larger capacity
- **v1.0.0** (2025-10-12): Initial implementation with cookie-based storage

**Remember:** This is a convenience feature for saving your work. For highly sensitive data, consider using dedicated password managers or secure document storage solutions.