Fox ML Infrastructure – Commercial Use Guide

Document Hierarchy: This document is provided for guidance only. In case of any conflict, `COMMERCIAL_LICENSE.md` is the authoritative and controlling document for all commercial licensing terms and obligations, and `LICENSE` (AGPL-3.0) controls for open-source licensing.

Quick reference for commercial use requirements and licensing.

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1. Do I Need a Commercial License?

[OK] YES – You need a commercial license if:

- You are a **business, organization, or institution**
- You use FoxML Core for **internal operations** (see `LEGAL/SUBSCRIPTIONS.md` for definition of business/internal use)
- You use it for **trading, investment, or financial decision-making**
- You **deploy it in production**
- You **integrate it into proprietary systems**
- You use it in any **revenue-generating activity**
- You **modify it for commercial use**
- You use it to **provide services to third parties**

Any business or internal use by or for a commercial organization requires a commercial license, regardless of whether the use directly generates revenue.

[X] NO – You do NOT need a commercial license if:

- You are using it for **non-commercial academic research** (see `LEGAL/SUBSCRIPTIONS.md` for full definition) at a qualifying non-profit, tax-exempt educational institution
- You are using it for **personal study or learning** (individual in personal capacity, NOT for business, client work, or revenue generation)
- You are contributing to **open-source projects** (under AGPL-3.0) in a non-commercial context
- You are **not using it in production** or for commercial purposes

IMPORTANT EXCLUSIONS: - **Sole proprietors, freelancers, and independent contractors** – Even if claimed to be "personal," any use in connection with business activity or client work requires a commercial license - **For-profit educational institutions** – Any use by for-profit universities, bootcamps, or training companies requires a commercial license - **Corporate research labs** – Research conducted by or for commercial organizations requires a commercial license, regardless of non-profit status - **"Experimental" or "non-revenue" business use** – Still requires a commercial license

Note: Academic research conducted for, funded by, sponsored by, or operationally integrated into a commercial organization requires a commercial license, even if performed by students or interns.

NO FREE TRIAL FOR COMMERCIAL USE: There is no grace period, evaluation period, or "free trial" for commercial use. Payment is required from the first day of commercial use. The 30-day evaluation period described in `LEGAL/SUPPORT_POLICY.md` is for non-commercial evaluation only.

See `LEGAL/SUBSCRIPTIONS.md` for complete definitions and usage scenarios.

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2. What Does a Commercial License Provide?

2.1 Rights Granted

With a commercial license, you can:

- [OK] Use FoxML Core internally without AGPL disclosure obligations
- [OK] Modify the software for internal commercial use
- [OK] Deploy it in production environments
- [OK] Integrate it into proprietary systems and workflows
- [OK] Use it for trading, investment, and financial decision-making
- [OK] Maintain private internal forks or repositories
- [OK] Access private GitHub repositories with commercial code

2.2 Restrictions

Even with a commercial license, you CANNOT:

- ☒ Redistribute or sell the software as a standalone product
- ☒ Host it as SaaS/PaaS without explicit written permission
- ☒ Publish or disclose source code derived from the commercial version
- ☒ Remove or alter copyright notices
- ☒ Claim authorship of the software or its architecture
- ☒ Use it in high-risk environments without authorization

See `COMMERCIAL_LICENSE.md` Section 4 (Restrictions) for complete details.

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3. SaaS / Hosted Service Use

3.1 Prohibited Without Permission

You MAY NOT host FoxML Core as SaaS/PaaS without:

- Explicit written permission from Fox ML Infrastructure LLC
- A separate commercial agreement for hosted services
- Custom licensing terms for multi-tenant deployments

3.2 Getting Permission

To offer FoxML Core as a hosted service:

- Contact: jenn.lewis5789@gmail.com
- Subject: SaaS Licensing Inquiry
- Include: Deployment model, scale, and usage estimates

SaaS deployments require custom licensing agreements.

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4. Pricing

4.1 Annual License Fees

Commercial license pricing is aligned with enterprise ML infrastructure standards (Databricks, Palantir, H2O Driverless AI, Scale AI, Recursion Pharma partnerships).

Tiers are based on total headcount of the legal entity (not just users of the Software).

- **Tier 1 − 1-10 employees** – $350,000 / year
- **Tier 2 − 11-50 employees** – $850,000 / year
- **Tier 3 − 51-250 employees** – $2,500,000 / year
- **Tier 4 − 251-1000 employees** – $6,000,000-$10,000,000 / year (pricing depends on deployment complexity and usage scope)
- **Tier 5 − 1000+ employees** – $15,000,000-$30,000,000+ / year (custom enterprise quote)

See `LEGAL/SUBSCRIPTIONS.md` for complete pricing information and optional add-ons.

4.2 Optional Enterprise Add-Ons

Enterprise add-ons are available with defined scope, boundaries, and pricing tiers (aligned with enterprise ML infrastructure standards):

- **Dedicated Support SLA** – $25,000-$250,000 / month (tiered: Business Support $25k-$50k/month, Enterprise Support $60k-$120k/month, Premium Support $150k-$250k/month with defined response times, coverage, and channels)
- **Integration & On-Prem Setup** – $500,000-$3,000,000 one-time (scoped via SOW, depends on infrastructure complexity, environment count, data integration volume, orchestration complexity, and cross-team rollout scope)
- **Onboarding** – $150,000-$600,000 one-time (Basic: $150k-$300k for training + architecture review; Advanced/Custom: $300k-$600k for tailored workshops + hands-on pipeline design + extended engineering consultation)
- **Private Slack / Direct Founder Access** – $300,000-$1,000,000 / year (rare, non-replicable strategic access to system architect; comparable to CTO-level advisory fees; up to 3-5 named contacts, business hours, strategic discussions only; not a replacement for support SLA)
- **Additional User Seats** – $500-$2,000 / seat / year (beyond included seats per tier; each license tier includes a base number of named users)
- **Adaptive Intelligence Layer** (Tier 5 only) – +$2,000,000-$5,000,000 / year (subject to roadmap availability, requires separate SOW with milestones)

See `LEGAL/SUBSCRIPTIONS.md` for complete add-on details, scope definitions, and boundaries.

4.3 What's Included

Commercial license includes:

- Annual license for internal use
- Access to private GitHub repositories
- Updates and patches (as released)
- Email support for licensing questions

Support and consulting are available separately. See `LEGAL/SUPPORT_POLICY.md`.

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5. How to Purchase

5.1 Licensing Process

To request a commercial license:

1. **Email:** jenn.lewis5789@gmail.com
2. **Subject:** Commercial License Request
3. **Include:**
   - Your full name
   - Organization name
   - Work email
   - Company website or LinkedIn
   - Organization size (1-10, 11-50, 51-250, 251-1000, 1000+)
   - Primary use case (1-3 sentences)
   - Desired start timeline
   - Any special requirements (optional)
4. **Review:** We will review your information and reply with:
   - Appropriate licensing option

- Pricing confirmation
- Stripe payment link
- Commercial License Agreement (CLA) for signature

5.2 After Purchase

Once licensed:

- You will receive access to private GitHub repositories
- You will receive a signed Commercial License Agreement
- You can begin using FoxML Core in production
- You must complete the production use notification (see `LEGAL/PRODUCTION_USE_NOTIFICATION.md`)

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6. Production Use Notification

6.1 Notification Requirement

If you use FoxML Core in production, you must:

- Complete the production use notification form
- Maintain license compliance
- Report any changes in usage or deployment

See `LEGAL/PRODUCTION_USE_NOTIFICATION.md` for the notification form.

6.2 What to Report

You should report:

- Production deployment locations
- Number of users or systems
- Integration points with other systems
- Any SaaS or hosted service offerings

This helps us understand usage patterns and provide better support.

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7. Compliance

7.1 Maintaining Compliance

To maintain compliance:

- Keep your commercial license current (annual renewal)
- Do not exceed license scope (e.g., SaaS without permission)
- Maintain copyright notices in all files
- Do not redistribute or publish source code
- Report production use as required

7.2 Audit Rights

Fox ML Infrastructure LLC may audit compliance:

- With 30 days' written notice
- Limited to compliance verification
- Remote audit methods permitted
- See `LEGAL/CLA.md` Section 13 for audit terms

8. Common Questions

8.1 Can I Use It for Trading?

Yes, with a commercial license. FoxML Core can be used for trading, investment analysis, and financial decision-making with a commercial license.

See `LEGAL/ACCEPTABLE_USE_POLICY.md` **for acceptable use guidelines.**

8.2 Can I Modify It?

Yes, with a commercial license. You can modify FoxML Core for internal commercial use. You cannot redistribute or publish modifications.

See `COMMERCIAL_LICENSE.md` **Section 2 (Grant of License).**

8.3 Can I Host It as SaaS?

No, not without explicit written permission. SaaS hosting requires a separate commercial agreement and custom licensing terms.

Contact jenn.lewis5789@gmail.com for SaaS licensing inquiries.

8.4 What About Academic Use?

Academic use is permitted under AGPL-3.0 for non-commercial research. If your academic institution uses it for commercial purposes, a commercial license is required.

See `DUAL_LICENSE.md` **for academic use details.**

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9. Getting Help

9.1 Licensing Questions

For licensing questions:

- Email: jenn.lewis5789@gmail.com
- Subject: Commercial Use Inquiry
- Response time: Within 2 business days

9.2 Compliance Questions

For compliance questions:

- See `LEGAL/COMPLIANCE_FAQ.md` for common questions
- See `LEGAL/LICENSE_ENFORCEMENT.md` for enforcement procedures
- Email: jenn.lewis5789@gmail.com

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10. Summary

Quick Checklist:

- [OK] Determine if you need a commercial license (see Section 1)
- [OK] Review pricing (see Section 4)
- [OK] Request a license (see Section 5)

- [OK] Complete production use notification (see Section 6)
- [OK] Maintain compliance (see Section 7)

If you have questions, contact us. We're here to help.

Related Documents

- `COMMERCIAL_LICENSE.md` – Complete commercial license terms
- `LEGAL/CLA.md` – Commercial License Agreement
- `LEGAL/SUBSCRIPTIONS.md` – Pricing and licensing process
- `DUAL_LICENSE.md` – Dual licensing overview
- `LEGAL/PRODUCTION_USE_NOTIFICATION.md` – Production use notification form
- `LEGAL/COMPLIANCE_FAQ.md` – Frequently asked questions
- `LEGAL/LICENSE_ENFORCEMENT.md` – Enforcement procedures

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Subject: Commercial Use Inquiry