

# NEXTAUTH\_URL Environment Variable Update Guide

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## Overview

This guide provides detailed, step-by-step instructions for updating the `NEXTAUTH_URL` environment variable from the old `.abacusai.app` domain to your new custom domain `app.genesisprovenance.com`.

### What is NEXTAUTH\_URL?

This environment variable tells NextAuth.js (the authentication library) where your app is hosted. It's critical for:

- Login/logout redirects
- OAuth callback URLs
- Session cookie domain
- Authentication security

### Why update it?

Your app is now deployed at `https://app.genesisprovenance.com`, so NextAuth needs to know about the new domain to work correctly.

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## Quick Summary

### What to change:

```
# OLD (current)
NEXTAUTH_URL=https://genesisprovenance.abacusai.app

# NEW (required)
NEXTAUTH_URL=https://app.genesisprovenance.com
```

**Where:** `/home/ubuntu/genesis_provenance/nextjs_space/.env`

**Time required:** 5-10 minutes



## Step-by-Step Instructions

### Method 1: Using nano (Text Editor) - RECOMMENDED

This is the easiest method for beginners.

#### Step 1: Navigate to the project directory

```
cd /home/ubuntu/genesis_provenance/nextjs_space
```

## Expected output:

```
# Your terminal prompt changes to show the directory
# Example: ubuntu@server:~/genesis_provenance/nextjs_space$
```

## Step 2: Open the .env file in nano

```
nano .env
```

### What you'll see:

- A text editor opens showing your environment variables
- You'll see multiple lines like `DATABASE_URL=...`, `STRIPE_SECRET_KEY=...`, etc.

## Step 3: Find the NEXTAUTH\_URL line

### 1. Look for this line:

```
bash
NEXTAUTH_URL=https://genesisprovenance.abacusai.app
```

### 2. Navigate to it:

- Use **Arrow Keys** ( $\uparrow \downarrow$ ) to move up/down
- You can also use **Ctrl+W** to search:
  - Press `Ctrl+W`
  - Type: `NEXTAUTH_URL`
  - Press `Enter`
  - nano will jump to that line

## Step 4: Edit the value

### 1. Position your cursor:

- Move to the line with `NEXTAUTH_URL`
- Use **Right Arrow** ( $\rightarrow$ ) to move to the part you need to change

### 2. Delete the old domain:

- Position cursor after `https://`
- Press `Ctrl+K` to delete everything after cursor on that line

### 3. Type the new domain:

```
bash
NEXTAUTH_URL=https://app.genesisprovenance.com
```

### Final result should look like:

```
NEXTAUTH_URL=https://app.genesisprovenance.com
```

## Step 5: Save and exit nano

### 1. Save the file:

- Press `Ctrl+O` (Write Out)
- nano will ask: "File Name to Write: .env"
- Press `Enter` to confirm
- You'll see: "[ Wrote XX lines ]" at the bottom

### 2. Exit nano:

- Press `Ctrl+X`
- You'll return to your terminal prompt

**Success!** The file is now saved with your changes.

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## Method 2: Using sed (Command Line) - ADVANCED

For users comfortable with command-line tools.

```
cd /home/ubuntu/genesis_provenance/nextjs_space
sed -i 's|NEXTAUTH_URL=https://genesisprovenance.abacusai.app|NEXTAUTH_URL=https://app.genesisprovenance.com|g' .env
```

### Explanation:

- `sed -i` : Edit file in-place
- `'s|OLD|NEW|g'` : Search and replace (globally)
- `.env` : Target file

### Verify the change:

```
cat .env | grep NEXTAUTH_URL
```

### Expected output:

```
NEXTAUTH_URL=https://app.genesisprovenance.com
```

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## Method 3: Manual Edit with vim - EXPERT

For vim users:

```
cd /home/ubuntu/genesis_provenance/nextjs_space
vim .env
```

1. Press `/` to search
2. Type `NEXTAUTH_URL` and press `Enter`
3. Press `i` to enter insert mode
4. Edit the line to: `NEXTAUTH_URL=https://app.genesisprovenance.com`
5. Press `Esc` to exit insert mode
6. Type `:wq` and press `Enter` to save and quit

## ✓ Step 6: Verify Your Changes

### Check the file contents

```
cd /home/ubuntu/genesis_provenance/nextjs_space
cat .env | grep NEXTAUTH_URL
```

#### Expected output:

```
NEXTAUTH_URL=https://app.genesisprovenance.com
```

#### ✓ If you see this, you're done!

#### ✗ If you see the old domain or an error:

- Go back to Step 2 and try again
- Make sure you saved the file (Ctrl+O in nano)
- Check for typos in the new URL

## 🔄 Step 7: Rebuild and Deploy (If Local Development)

**⚠️ IMPORTANT:** Changes to `.env` require a rebuild for the app to use the new value.

### For Local Development:

```
cd /home/ubuntu/genesis_provenance/nextjs_space
yarn build
```

**Wait for build to complete** (about 2-5 minutes)

#### Expected output:

- ✓ Compiled successfully
- ✓ Generating static pages (24/24)

### For Production Deployment:

If your app is deployed on Abacus.AI platform:

1. **The platform will automatically use the updated `.env` file**
2. **No manual rebuild needed** - the deployment system reads `.env` on each deployment
3. **Next deployment will use the new value**

To trigger a deployment:

```
# This will be done via the deployment tools you're already using
# The .env file is already updated and will be used automatically
```

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## Step 8: Test Authentication

### Test 1: Login

1. Open your browser
2. Navigate to: `https://app.genesisprovenance.com/auth/login`
3. Enter credentials:
  - Email: `john@doe.com`
  - Password: `password123`
4. Click "Sign In"

#### Expected result:

- Login succeeds
- Redirected to `/dashboard`
- URL bar shows: `https://app.genesisprovenance.com/dashboard`
- No errors in browser console

#### If login fails:

- Check browser console for errors (F12 → Console tab)
  - Verify you updated `NEXTAUTH_URL` correctly
  - Try clearing cookies and trying again
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### Test 2: Logout

1. While logged in, click your profile menu (top-right)
2. Click "Sign Out"

#### Expected result:

- Successfully logged out
  - Redirected to `/auth/login`
  - URL bar shows: `https://app.genesisprovenance.com/auth/login`
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### Test 3: Session Persistence

1. Log in again
2. Close the browser tab
3. Open a new tab
4. Navigate to: `https://app.genesisprovenance.com/dashboard`

#### Expected result:

- You remain logged in
  - Dashboard loads without requiring login
- 

### Test 4: Protected Routes

1. While logged OUT, try to access:

`https://app.genesisprovenance.com/dashboard`

```
https://app.genesisprovenance.com/vault
https://app.genesisprovenance.com/settings
```

**Expected result:**

- Automatically redirected to /auth/login
  - After login, redirected back to the original page you tried to access
- 



## Troubleshooting

### Issue 1: “File .env not found”

**Cause:** You’re in the wrong directory

**Solution:**

```
# Navigate to the correct directory
cd /home/ubuntu/genesis_provenance/nextjs_space

# Verify you're in the right place
ls -la .env
```

**Expected output:**

```
-rw-r--r-- 1 ubuntu ubuntu 1234 Dec 2 12:00 .env
```

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### Issue 2: Login redirects to old domain

**Cause:** Browser cached old authentication cookies

**Solution:**

1. **Clear browser cookies:**

- Press F12 to open DevTools
- Go to “Application” tab (Chrome) or “Storage” tab (Firefox)
- Click “Cookies”
- Delete all cookies for app.genesisprovenance.com and genesisprovenance.abacusai.app

2. **Close and reopen browser**

3. **Try logging in again**

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### Issue 3: “Invalid session” or “Authentication failed”

**Cause:** NextAuth is still using old NEXTAUTH\_URL value

**Solution:**

1. **Verify .env file was updated:**

```
bash
```

```
cat /home/ubuntu/genesis_provenance/nextjs_space/.env | grep NEXTAUTH_URL
Should show: NEXTAUTH_URL=https://app.genesisprovenance.com
```

### 1. Rebuild the application:

```
bash
cd /home/ubuntu/genesis_provenance/nextjs_space
yarn build
```

### 2. Restart the application (if running locally):

```
bash
# Stop current process (Ctrl+C)
yarn start
```

## Issue 4: Changes not taking effect

**Cause:** Old build cache or environment not reloaded

**Solution:**

```
cd /home/ubuntu/genesis_provenance/nextjs_space

# Clear Next.js cache
rm -rf .next

# Rebuild
yarn build

# Restart (if local)
yarn start
```

## Issue 5: “nano: command not found”

**Cause:** nano text editor not installed

**Solution:** Use an alternative method:

**Option A: Install nano**

```
sudo apt-get update
sudo apt-get install nano -y
```

**Option B: Use vi instead**

```
vi /home/ubuntu/genesis_provenance/nextjs_space/.env
# Press 'i' to insert
# Edit the line
# Press Esc, then ':wq' to save
```

**Option C: Use echo**

```
# Backup first
cp .env .env.backup

# Use sed to replace
sed -i 's|NEXTAUTH_URL=https://genesisprovenance.abacusai.app|NEXTAUTH_URL=https://app.genesisprovenance.com|g' .env
```

## Before vs After Comparison

### Before Update

```
# Login URL
https://genesisprovenance.abacusai.app/api/auth/signin

# Callback URL
https://genesisprovenance.abacusai.app/api/auth/callback

# Cookie Domain
.abacusai.app
```

### After Update

```
# Login URL
https://app.genesisprovenance.com/api/auth/signin

# Callback URL
https://app.genesisprovenance.com/api/auth/callback

# Cookie Domain
.genesisprovenance.com
```

## Success Criteria Checklist

Confirm all items before considering the update complete:

#### File Update:

- [ ] .env file opened successfully
- [ ] NEXTAUTH\_URL line found
- [ ] Value changed to https://app.genesisprovenance.com
- [ ] File saved successfully
- [ ] Changes verified with cat .env | grep NEXTAUTH\_URL

#### Application:

- [ ] Application rebuilt (if local development)
- [ ] No build errors
- [ ] Application restarted/redeployed

#### Authentication Tests:

- [ ] Login works at https://app.genesisprovenance.com/auth/login

- [ ] Logout works correctly
  - [ ] Session persists across browser tabs
  - [ ] Protected routes redirect to login
  - [ ] After login, redirects back to intended page
  - [ ] No authentication errors in console
- 

## Security Notes

### What NEXTAUTH\_URL Controls

#### 1. Redirect URIs:

- Where users are sent after login/logout
- Must match your actual domain for security

#### 2. Callback URLs:

- Where OAuth providers send users after authorization
- Critical for Google SSO, OAuth integrations

#### 3. Cookie Domain:

- Which domain can read authentication cookies
- Prevents session hijacking across domains

#### 4. CSRF Protection:

- Used to generate and validate CSRF tokens
- Protects against cross-site request forgery

### Why Incorrect NEXTAUTH\_URL is a Security Risk

#### If left pointing to old domain:

- Users might be redirected to old domain after login
- Session cookies might not work properly
- OAuth providers might reject callbacks
- CSRF validation might fail

#### After updating to correct domain:

- All redirects go to correct domain
- Session management works properly
- OAuth integrations work correctly
- CSRF protection functions as expected

## Additional Resources

### NextAuth.js Documentation

- Environment Variables: <https://next-auth.js.org/configuration/options#environment-variables>
- Deployment: <https://next-auth.js.org/deployment>

### Related Genesis Provenance Docs

- `CUSTOM_DOMAIN_MIGRATION_COMPLETE.md` - Complete migration guide
- `DOMAIN_UPDATE_CHECKLIST.txt` - Quick checklist for all domain updates

- `CHECKOUT_TROUBLESHOOTING.md` - Stripe integration with new domain
- 

## Still Having Issues?

### Check Server Logs

```
# View application logs
tail -f /var/log/nextjs/application.log

# Search for authentication errors
grep -i "auth" /var/log/nextjs/application.log | tail -20
```

### Verify Environment Variables at Runtime

Add temporary logging to check if env var is loaded:

1. Open `/home/ubuntu/genesis_provenance/nextjs_space/lib/auth-options.ts`
  2. Add at the top:  

```
typescript
console.log('[Auth] NEXTAUTH_URL:', process.env.NEXTAUTH_URL)
```
  3. Rebuild and check logs
  4. You should see: `[Auth] NEXTAUTH_URL: https://app.genesisprovenance.com`
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## Summary

### What you did:

1.  Opened `.env` file in nano
2.  Changed `NEXTAUTH_URL` from old domain to `https://app.genesisprovenance.com`
3.  Saved the file
4.  Verified the change
5.  Rebuilt/redeployed application (if needed)
6.  Tested authentication

### Result:

- Your app now uses the correct custom domain for authentication
- All login/logout flows work properly
- Sessions are correctly scoped to your domain
- OAuth integrations will use correct callback URLs

### Next Steps:

1. Test all authentication flows thoroughly
  2. Update Stripe webhook URLs (see `STRIPE_WEBHOOK_EVENTS_GUIDE.md`)
  3. Update any OAuth provider redirect URLs (Google SSO, etc.)
  4. Notify users of domain change
  5. Update marketing materials and documentation
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**Last Updated:** December 2, 2025

**App Version:** Phase 7A

**Auth Library:** NextAuth.js v4

**Current Domain:** app.genesisprovenance.com