

AtlasOA vs HelioCampus

HelioCampus is a cloud-based analytics and outcomes platform used by larger universities. AtlasOA is an on-premise alternative built specifically for small colleges and workforce programs. The table below compares key decision factors for IT directors.

Factor	AtlasOA	HelioCampus
Deployment	On-premise. Runs on your Windows Server. Data never leaves your network.	Cloud-hosted (AWS). Data stored on vendor servers. Requires internet access.
Data Ownership	Institution owns the server, the database, and all backups. Full control.	Vendor hosts and manages data. Export available but data resides in vendor cloud.
Pricing Model	Flat annual license. No per-student fees. Founder partners: \$1,500/year.	Custom quote, typically \$25,000 to \$100,000+/year depending on enrollment and modules.
Target Audience	Small colleges (under 5,000 students), workforce programs, career-tech centers.	Mid-size to large universities. Enterprise analytics focus.
Implementation	15-minute installer. No professional services required. Self-service setup.	Multi-month implementation with vendor-led onboarding and data integration projects.
SIS Integration	8 adapters included (Jenzabar, Blackboard, Canvas, Moodle, CSV). Adapter template for custom SIS.	Pre-built connectors for major SIS platforms. Custom integrations may require vendor professional services.
FERPA Compliance	On-premise architecture inherently satisfies data residency. No cloud subprocessors.	Cloud-hosted with BAA/DPA. Data crosses network boundaries to vendor infrastructure.
Audit Log	SHA-256 hash chain, append-only, separate database. Institution controls the log.	Vendor-managed audit logging. Access may require support requests.
Vendor Lock-in	None. SQLite database is a single file. Export everything at any time.	Cloud platform dependency. Migration requires data export and re-integration.
Support	Email support included. Founder partners get direct access to the developer.	Tiered support plans. Premium support available at additional cost.

HelioCampus serves a different market segment. If your institution has 10,000+ students and an enterprise analytics budget, it may be the right fit. If you are a small college looking for an affordable, private, self-hosted solution, AtlasOA was built for you.