

# Mac OS

## Fixing the "Administrator Privilege Error" When Licensing IBM SPSS on Macs

After installing IBM SPSS on a Mac, you'll occasionally run into an "Administrator Privilege Error" while trying to license SPSS. This error is due to an issue with the SPSS installer that doesn't give the /Applications/IBM folder proper permissions. This guide will show you how to fix that.

1. Quit any open IBM applications (**SPSS, SPSS License Authorization Wizard**).
2. Open a Finder window and navigate to **/Applications/IBM/Statistics**.
3. There's a folder for the version of SPSS you just installed, e.g., **25**. Right-click (or Option-Click) that folder > Select **Get Info** from the pop-up menu.
4. At the bottom of the **Get Info** window, under the **Sharing & Permissions** section, click the **lock** icon and enter your computer password to unlock it.
5. Make sure that the Name **admin** has the Privilege **Read & Write** (Click on the up/down arrow icon to the right of the Name "admin" to change its corresponding Privilege value.)
6. Click the **gear** icon at the bottom of the **Sharing & Permissions** section, and select **Apply to enclosed items....**
7. You'll be given a warning along the lines of "Are you sure you want to apply the selected permissions to all enclosed items?" Click **OK**. If you're prompted for your computer password, provide it.
8. When it's done, click the **lock** at the bottom of the **Get Info** window to lock it.
9. Restart your computer, log back in to your computer user, launch the **SPSS Statistics License Authorization Wizard** (located at **/Applications/IBM/SPSS/[your version number]/SPSS Statistics License Authorization Wizard**), and try entering your license code again

If you still get a permissions error, make an appointment with Richard LaHue via Request Tracker (email **computing@help.carthage.edu** and Cc **rlahue@carthage.edu**).

Unique solution ID: #1488  
Author: Richard LaHue  
Last update: 2018-06-15 22:18