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NIH Requires a New Data-Sharing Plan Starting January 2023. Here is What You Need to Know

by Lori Sloane on September 22nd, 2022 | O Comments





The National Institutes of Health (NIH) issued the final <u>NIH Policy for Data Management and Sharing</u> (DMS Policy) to promote the management and sharing of Scientific Data generated from NIH-funded or conducted research.

Beginning January 25th, 2023, every grant application or renewal that generates Scientific Data must now include a robust and detailed plan for how you will manage and share data during the entire funded period. This includes information on data storage, access policies/procedures, preservation, Metadata Standards, distribution approaches, and more. You must provide this information in a Data Management and Sharing Plan (DMSP).

The DMSP is a required component of an NIH grant or contract application and will be assessed by NIH Program Staff during the review process. The Institute, Center, or Office (ICO)-approved plan becomes a Term and Condition of the Notice of Award.

What do I need to do?

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A DMSP must be submitted as part of the funding application for all new and competing proposals/renewals that generate Scientific Data beginning January 25, 2023.

DMSPs must include information on the types of scientific data collected; related tools, software and/or code; any applicable standards; and plans and timelines for data preservation and access. This includes the name of the repository(ies) where scientific data and metadata arising from the project will be archived and how the scientific data will be findable and identifiable, i.e., via a persistent unique identifier or other standard indexing tools. Researchers should decide which Scientific Data to preserve and share based on ethical, legal, and technical factors, including State, Federal and Tribal law.

NIH recognizes that making data accessible and reusable for other researchers may incur costs. For that reason, investigators may request funds toward data management and sharing in the budget and budget justification sections of their applications. The NIH provides details on <u>allowable costs</u> to help investigators plan.

How can I get help?

The Health Sciences Library and Informatics Center (HSLIC) provides support for creating Data Management and Sharing Plans and can be contacted through <u>Ask a Librarian</u>. They also provide a <u>research guide on Data Management Planning</u>. HSLIC provides training opportunities on the Data Management Sharing Plans and Data Repositories on the <u>HSLIC Event Calendar</u>.

NIH recorded a video "<u>Understanding the New NIH Data Management and Sharing (DMS) Policy</u>", with all the specific details answered along with common questions asked.

NIH DMSP FAQs are available.

NIH is developing concrete examples of DMSPs. We will distribute examples to the faculty when available. <u>NIH has a draft format form</u> that can be found on the <u>NIH Data Management and Sharing Policy website</u>.

Definitions

Scientific Data: The recorded factual material commonly accepted in the scientific community as of sufficient quality to validate and replicate research findings, regardless of whether the data are used to support scholarly publications. Scientific data do not include laboratory notebooks, preliminary analyses, completed case report forms, drafts of scientific papers, plans for future research, peer reviews, communications with colleagues, or physical objects, such as laboratory specimens.

Data Management: The process of validating, organizing, protecting, maintaining, and processing scientific data to ensure the accessibility, reliability, and quality of the scientific data for its users.

Data Sharing: The act of making scientific data available for use by others (e.g., the larger research

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community, institutions, the broader public), for example, via an established repository.

Metadata: Data that provide additional information intended to make scientific data interpretable and reusable (e.g., date, independent sample and variable construction and description, methodology, data provenance, data transformations, any intermediate or descriptive observational variables).

Data Management and Sharing Plan (Plan): A plan describing the data management, preservation, and sharing of scientific data and accompanying metadata.

For more information, contact Lori Sloane lsloane@salud.unm.edu

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