Data Management and Sharing Plans

Overview

The lifecycle of your data is documented in a data management plan. The plan offers information on data collection for storage, access, sharing and reproducibility of your results. After your project is finished and the results have been published, a solid data management plan will guarantee that your research findings are accessible and available, improving the value of your work and enabling potential re-use by other researchers.

What's new about the 2023 NIH Data Management and Sharing Policy?

Previously, the NIH only required grants with $500,000 per year or more in direct costs to provide a brief explanation of how and when data resulting from the grant would be shared. The 2023 policy is entirely new. Beginning in 2023, ALL grant applications or renewals that generate 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 like what other funders call a data management plan (DMP). The DMSP will be assessed by NIH Program Staff (though peer reviewers will be able to comment on the proposed data management budget). The Institute, Center, or Office (ICO)-approved plan becomes a Term and Condition of the Notice of Award.

What do I need to submit as a part of my funding proposal?

Data Management and Sharing Plan (DMSP)

If you plan to generate scientific data, you must submit a Data Management and Sharing Plan to the funding NIH ICO as part of the Budget Justification section of your application for extramural awards.

Your plan should be two pages or fewer and must include:

- Data Type
- Related Tools, Software and/or Code
- Standards
- Data Preservation, Access, and Associated Timelines
- Access, Distribution, or Reuse Considerations
- Oversight of Data Management and Sharing.

See Supplemental Information to the NIH Policy for Data Management and Sharing: Elements of an NIH Data Management and Sharing Plan for a detailed description of these Elements. For additional resources, refer to How to Get Started Writing a DMP.