NIH Data Management & Sharing Plan – NEW Policy

Key Takeaways

- NIH requires all applicants planning to generate scientific data to prepare a DMS Plan that describes how the scientific data will be managed and shared
- The DMS Plan is a required element of any NIH application on/after January 25, 2023
- Failure to comply with the plan may impact future funding

What types of research projects are subject to the NIH DMS policy?

- Applications with Receipt Dates on or after January 25, 2023
- Applications funded at any amount/level
- Projects that produce scientific data

What types of research projects are not subject to the NIH DMS policy?

Research and other activities that do not generate scientific data, for example: research training, fellowships, infrastructure development, and non-research activities.

NIH Definition of 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.”

Submitting the DMS Plan

The DMS Plan should be submitted as follows:

- Extramural (grants):
  o DMS Plans should be included within the “Other Plan(s) field on the PHS 398 Research Plan or PHS 398 Career Development Award Supplemental Form as indicated in the Application Instructions.
  o A brief summary and associated costs should be submitted as part of the budget and budget justification (see Budgeting for Data Management and Sharing and the Application Instructions for details).
- Extramural (contracts): as part of the technical evaluation
- Intramural: determined by the Intramural Research Program
- Other funding agreements: prior to the release of funds

Data Management and Sharing Plan Format

DMS Plans are recommended to be two pages or less in length.

NIH has developed an optional DMS Plan format page that aligns with the recommended elements of a DMS Plan.
Key Elements:

1) Data Type
2) Related Tools, Software and/or Code
3) Standards
4) Data Preservation, Access, and Associated Timelines
5) Access, Distribution, or Reuse Considerations
6) Oversight of Data Management and Sharing

Applicants will need to ensure that their Plan reflects any additional, applicable expectations (including from NIH policies, ICO policies, or as stated in the FOA). See below for helpful tools.

- NIH-Wide Sharing Policies
  A tool to help you determine which NIH-wide sharing policies apply to your project.
- NIH Institute and Center Data Sharing Policies
  A filterable table of additional data sharing requirements issued by ICOs.

Budgeting for Data Management and Sharing

Investigators may request funds toward data management and sharing in the budget and budget justification sections of their applications. Check here for allowable and unallowable costs.

- Detailed budgets:
  o Single line item in Section F. Other Direct Costs entered as “Data Management and Sharing Costs”
  o Budget Justification should include a brief summary of the DMS Plan and description of the requested Data Management and Sharing Costs;
- Modular Budgets:
  o Data Management and Sharing Costs should be mentioned only in the Additional Narrative Justification.

Where do I upload my Plan?

- Data sharing plans and genomic data sharing plans will no longer be submitted to the “Resource Sharing Plan(s)” field.
- A new “Other Plan(s)” field will be added to the following FORMS-H forms to collect a single PDF attachment containing the Elements of a DMS Plan

Resources

- NIH Policy for Data Management and Sharing (NOT-OD-21-013)
- NIH Data Management and Sharing Guidance
- DMPTool (use your UCF credentials to log in)