

National Science Foundation (NSF): NSF-ENG: Engineering

Roles and responsibilities

The DMP should clearly articulate how "sharing of primary data" is to be implemented. It should outline the rights and obligations of all parties as to their roles and responsibilities in the management and retention of research data. It must also consider changes to roles and responsibilities that will occur should a principal investigator or co-PI leave the institution. Any costs should be explained in the Budget Justification pages.

Guidance:

- [Data Management for NSF Engineering Directorate Proposals and Awards](#)
- [NSF Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide \(PAPPG\)](#)
- [NSF plans for data management and sharing of the products of research \(PAPPG\)](#)
- [NSF Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\) for Public Access](#)

Expected data

The Data Management Plan should describe the types of data, samples, physical collections, software, curriculum materials, and other materials to be produced in the course of the project. It should then describe the expected types of data to be retained.

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- [Data Management for NSF Engineering Directorate Proposals and Awards](#)
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- [NSF plans for data management and sharing of the products of research \(PAPPG\)](#)
- [NSF Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\) for Public Access](#)

Period of data retention

The DMP should describe the period of data retention. Minimum data retention of research data is three years after conclusion of the award or three years after public release, whichever is later.

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Data formats and dissemination

The DMP should describe the specific data formats, media, and dissemination approaches that will be used to make data available to others, including any metadata. Policies for public access and sharing should be described, including provisions for appropriate protection of privacy, confidentiality, security, intellectual property, or other rights or requirements.

Research centers and major partnerships with industry or other user communities must also address how data are to be shared and managed with partners, center members, and other major stakeholders. Publication delay policies (if applicable) must be clearly stated. Investigators are expected to submit significant findings for publications quickly that are consistent with the publication delay obligations of key partners, such as industrial members of a research center.

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Data storage and preservation of access

The DMP should describe physical and cyber resources and facilities that will be used for the effective preservation and storage of research data. In collaborative proposals or proposals involving sub-awards, the lead PI is responsible for assuring data storage and access.

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