

# National Science Foundation (nsf.gov): NSF-PHY: Physics

## Publication

Investigators are expected to promptly prepare and submit for publication, with authorship that accurately reflects the contributions of those involved, all significant findings from work conducted under NSF grants. Grantees are expected to permit and encourage such publication by those actually performing that work, unless a grantee intends to publish or disseminate such findings itself.

*Guidance:*

- [NSF-PHY Advice to PIs on Data Management Plans](#)
- [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](#)

## Data types and privacy

Investigators are expected to share with other researchers, at no more than incremental cost and within a reasonable time, the primary data, samples, physical collections and other supporting materials created or gathered in the course of work under NSF grants. Grantees are expected to encourage and facilitate such sharing. Privileged or confidential information should be released only in a form that protects the privacy of individuals and subjects involved. General adjustments and, where essential, exceptions to this sharing expectation may be specified by the funding NSF Program or Division/Office for a particular field or discipline to safeguard the rights of individuals and subjects, the validity of results, or the integrity of collections or to accommodate the legitimate interest of investigators. A grantee or investigator also may request a particular adjustment or exception from the cognizant NSF Program Officer.

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## Access and sharing

Investigators and grantees are encouraged to share software and inventions created under the grant or otherwise make them or their products widely available and usable.

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## Policies and provisions for re-use, re-distribution, derivatives

NSF normally allows grantees to retain principal legal rights to intellectual property developed under NSF grants to provide incentives for development and dissemination of inventions, software and publications that can enhance their usefulness, accessibility and upkeep. Such incentives do not, however, reduce the responsibility that investigators and organizations have as members of the scientific and engineering community, to make results, data and collections available to other researchers.

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## Plans for archiving and preservation

NSF program management will implement these policies for dissemination and sharing of research results, in ways appropriate to field and circumstances, through the proposal review process; through award negotiations and conditions; and through appropriate support and incentives for data cleanup, documentation, dissemination, storage and the like.

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## **Data retention**

Physics Division PIs should include in their Data Management Plan those aspects of data retention and sharing that would allow them to respond to a question about a published result. Members of formal collaborations may refer to the collaboration's existing policies and practices.

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