



NIH Data Sharing: Required Elements of a Data Sharing Plan



Proposal Submission



Award and Account
Establishment



After Research
Commences



Closeout

Should be no longer than two pages. (To review NIH template DMS Plan, see <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/all-forms-and-formats/format-pages/data-management-sharing-plan>)

Key elements:

(1) Data Type



Briefly describe the scientific data to be managed, preserved, and shared, including a summary of the types and amounts of data to be shared, and a description of which scientific data will be preserved and shared.

(2) Related Tools, Software, and/or Code



Any indication of whether specialized tools are needed to access or manipulate shared scientific data to support replication or reuse, and names of the needed tools/software.

(3) Standards



An indication of what standards will be applied to the scientific data and associated metadata (i.e., data formats, data dictionaries, data identifiers, definitions, unique identifiers, and other data documentation).

(4) Data Preservation, Access, and Associated Timelines



Plans and timelines for data preservation and access, including the name of the repository; how scientific data will be findable and identifiable; when the scientific data will be made available to other users and for how long.

(5) Access, Distribution, or Reuse Considerations



Plans should maximize the appropriate sharing of scientific data consistent with privacy, security, informed consent, and proprietary issues.

(6) Oversight of Data Management and Sharing



Indicate how compliance with the Plan will be monitored and managed, frequency of oversight, and by whom (e.g., titles, roles).



(7) Additional Considerations

Note that funding opportunities or ICs may have specific expectations (for example: scientific data to share, relevant standards, repository selection). View a list of [NIH Institute or Center data sharing policies](#).

