

Selection of a Data Repository: Desirable Characteristics

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Unique Persistent Identifiers

Assigns datasets a citable, unique persistent identifier (PID), such as a digital object identifier (DOI) or accession number.



Long-Term Sustainability

Has a plan for long-term management of data.



Metadata

Ensures datasets are accompanied by metadata to enable discovery, reuse, and citation of datasets, using schema that are appropriate to, and ideally widely used across, the community(ies) the repository serves.



Curation and Quality Assurance

Provides, or has a mechanism for others to provide, expert curation and quality assurance to improve the accuracy and integrity of datasets and metadata.



Free and Easy Access

Provides broad, equitable, and maximally open access to datasets and their metadata free of charge in a timely manner after submission.



Broad and Measured Reuse

Makes datasets and their metadata available with broadest possible terms of reuse.



Clear Use Guidance

Provides accompanying documentation describing terms of dataset access and use (e.g., particular licenses, need for approval by a data use committee).



Security and Integrity

Has documented measures in place to meet generally accepted criteria for preventing unauthorized access to, modification of, or release of data, with levels of security that are appropriate to the sensitivity of data.



Confidentiality

Has documented capabilities for ensuring that administrative, technical, and physical safeguards are employed to comply with applicable confidentiality, risk management, and continuous monitoring requirements for sensitive data.



Common Format

Allows datasets and metadata downloaded, accessed, or exported from the repository to be in widely used, preferably non-proprietary, formats consistent with those used in the community(ies) the repository serves.



Provenance

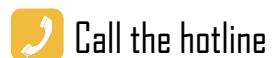
Has mechanisms in place to record the origin, chain of custody, and any modifications to submitted datasets and metadata.



Retention Policy

Provides documentation on policies for data retention within the repository.

Need more help?



Call the hotline



Send an email



Visit the hotline