

INFORMED CONSENT INFORMATION SHEET

Washington University in St. Louis—Consent to Take Part in a Research Study Realities of Academic Data Sharing—Fall 2022 Survey

You are invited to be in a research study about the costs of the activities, services, and infrastructure used to make research data publicly available from funded research across six academic institutions. You were selected as a possible participant because you work in a unit at Washington University in St. Louis that may potentially support researchers in work that results in public access to research data. We ask that you read this page and ask any questions you may have before agreeing to be in the study.

This study, the [Realities of Academic Data Sharing \(RADS\) Initiative](#), is being conducted by: The Association of Research Libraries (ARL), in collaboration with investigators from Cornell University, Duke University, University of Michigan, University of Minnesota, Washington University in St. Louis, and Virginia Tech. The PI contact at Washington University in St. Louis is Jennifer Moore, Head of Data Services, University Libraries.

Procedures:

If you agree to be in this study, we will ask you to answer questions about the costs, activities, services, and infrastructure you use and support to make research data publicly accessible. The survey should take approximately 30 minutes to complete.

Confidentiality:

Survey data that directly identifies you will be kept private and will only be shared with the research team. Research data collected in this study will be stripped of direct identifiers, such as names and email addresses, before being shared broadly with other researchers and the public. However, budget and cost information about your department may still be identifiable based on publicly available information about the university's expenditures. Data may be reused by others without your additional informed consent.

Security of Information:

The survey is hosted on the Alchemer platform, which encrypts data and can only be accessed through secure HTTPS. Alchemer utilizes TLS (Transport Layer Security) to secure the communication protocol and stay current at the most recent patch level. Please note that the survey is being conducted on the Alchemer platform, a company not affiliated with Washington University in St. Louis and with [its own privacy and security policies](#) that you can find on its website. We anticipate that your participation in this survey presents no greater risk than everyday use of the Internet.

Voluntary Nature of the Study:

Participation in this study is voluntary. Your decision whether or not to participate will not affect your current or future relations with Washington University in St. Louis, ARL, or any of the associated institutions in this study. If you decide to participate, you are free to not answer any question or withdraw at any time without affecting those relationships.

To withdraw from the study, close the online survey; no data is stored until the survey is submitted.

Risks and Discomforts:

There are no known risks associated with participating in this study.

Benefits:

Participants may experience benefits in the form of increased insight and awareness of campus costs, infrastructure, services, and activities that support public access to research data.

Compensation for Participation:

Compensation is not provided for this study for any participant across the six academic institutions.

Follow Up Studies:

We may contact you again to request your participation in a follow up interview. As always, your participation will be voluntary and we will ask for your explicit consent to participate in any of the follow up studies. The last question on the following survey allows you to express interest or not in the follow up interview.

Contacts and Questions:

The researcher conducting this study at Washington University in St. Louis is Jennifer Moore, Head of Data Services. If you have questions now or at a later date, you are encouraged to contact her at j.moore@wustl.edu.

The principal investigator of this study is Cynthia Hudson Vitale at ARL. You can contact her via email at: cvitale@arl.org.

This research has been reviewed and approved by the Washington University in St. Louis's Human Research Protection Office (HRPO) IRB or the Human Research Quality Assurance Program (HRQA). To share feedback privately with the HRPO or HRQA about your research experience, call 314-747-6800 or email HRQA@wustl.edu. You are encouraged to contact the HPRO or HRQA if:

- Your questions, concerns, or complaints are not being answered by the research team.
- You cannot reach the research team.
- You want to talk to someone besides the research team.
- You have questions about your rights as a research participant.
- You want to get information or provide input about this research.

You may request a copy of this information to keep for your records.