

Research Data Management support @ UCL

UCL and most research funders expect researchers to take care of their research data throughout their project, to preserve them and, whenever appropriate, to share them.

UCL Library Services is committed to support **research staff and research students** to comply with these policies and to respect data management best practices. Help is available for **all disciplines and all types and volume of data**.

The resources and information below explain how to find relevant guidance and how to ask for help. For any questions, researchers and research support staff are encouraged to visit the UCL Research Data Management website at www.ucl.ac.uk/research-data-management.

Key definitions

Research data are the sources (digital or not) created or collated for a research project. The [UCL Research Data Policy](#) states that “data are facts, observations or experiences on which an argument or theory is constructed or tested.”

They include for instance lab notebooks, databases, blood samples, questionnaires, audiotapes, photographs, manuscripts, etc.

Research Data Management covers all of the decisions made during a research project to handle data. These decisions include how researchers organise, store, describe, share, preserve & re-use data.

Why Research Data Management matters

Good practices in managing data help research staff and research students to

- **comply** with legal, ethical, commercial, institutional and funders’ requirements,
- **anticipate** problems, minimize risks and save time,
- **ensure** the long-term preservation of data and their visibility (if appropriate).

Information on UCL & research funders’ requirements

Check www.ucl.ac.uk/research-data-management for the latest versions of UCL and funders’ **policies** on research data.

Read our advice on **Data Management Plans**, including real-life examples of Plans and ask for feedback on your Plans before you submit your grant application.

Best practices guidance & help

Check www.ucl.ac.uk/research-data-management for guidance on formats, storage, preservation, sensitive and personal data, discipline-specific resources and much more.

Read our **FAQs** and find **key contacts** for questions on research data, research IT, information governance, grant applications, ethics, data protection, research collaboration, copyright, Open Access.