Dissemination and Sharing of Research Results

A. NSF Data Management Plan Links
From the NSF 13-1 GPG: http://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/dmp.jsp
Specific Directorates may have additional recommendations or requirements.

B. NSF Data Management & Sharing Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
http://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/dmpfaqs.jsp

*C. NSF Data Sharing Policy: **AAG Chapter VI.D.4***
http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/pappguide/nsf13001/aag_6.jsp#VID4

Proposals submitted or due on or after January 18, 2011, must include a supplementary document of no more than two pages labeled "Data Management Plan". This supplementary document should describe how the proposal will conform to NSF policy on the dissemination and sharing of research results. See Grant Proposal Guide (GPG) Chapter II.C.2.j for full policy implementation (also included in Section C of this document).

NSF does not prescribe specific content for the data management plan. The data management plan is two pages maximum, and does not count against the 15-page limit

Broadly, the data management plan must specify "how the proposal will conform to the NSF policy on dissemination and sharing of research results."

Despite the name, the requirements do *not* emphasize a description of how your data will be managed internally for project investigators. The focus is on how you will share and disseminate your data externally, long term.

D. NSF Data Management Plan Description
http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/pappguide/nsf13001/gpg_2.jsp#dmp

• Plans for data management and sharing of the products of research. Proposals must include a supplementary document of no more than two pages labeled "Data Management Plan". This supplement should describe how the proposal will conform to NSF policy on the dissemination and sharing of research results (see AAG Chapter VI.D.4), and may include:

1. the types of data, samples, physical collections, software, curriculum materials, and other materials to be produced in the course of the project;
2. the standards to be used for data and metadata format and content (where existing standards are absent or deemed inadequate, this should be documented along with any proposed solutions or remedies);
3. policies for access and sharing including provisions for appropriate protection of privacy, confidentiality, security, intellectual property, or other rights or requirements;

4. policies and provisions for re-use, re-distribution, and the production of derivatives; and
5. plans for archiving data, samples, and other research products, and for preservation of access to them.

Data management requirements and plans specific to the Directorate, Office, Division, Program, or other NSF unit, relevant to a proposal are available at: http://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/dmp.jsp. If guidance specific to the program is not available, then the requirements established in this section apply.

Simultaneously submitted collaborative proposals and proposals that include subawards are a single unified project and should include only one supplemental combined Data Management Plan, regardless of the number of non-lead collaborative proposals or subawards included. FastLane will not permit submission of a proposal that is missing a Data Management Plan. Proposals for supplementary support to an existing award are not required to include a Data Management Plan.

A valid Data Management Plan may include only the statement that no detailed plan is needed, as long as the statement is accompanied by a clear justification. Proposers who feel that the plan cannot fit within the supplement limit of two pages may use part of the 15-page Project Description for additional data management information. Proposers are advised that the Data Management Plan may not be used to circumvent the 15-page Project Description limitation. The Data Management Plan will be reviewed as an integral part of the proposal, coming under Intellectual Merit or Broader Impacts or both, as appropriate for the scientific community of relevance.

C. NSF Data Sharing Policy
http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/pappguide/nsf13001/aag_6.jsp#VID4

4. Dissemination and Sharing of Research Results

a. 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.

b. 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.

c. 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.

d. 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.

e. 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.

D. External Resources
The following are excellent resources from other universities available on the internet.

Data Management Sample Plans – University of Alabama in Huntsville

http://www.osp.uah.edu/documents/DataManagementPlanUAHSample1.pdf

http://www.osp.uah.edu/documents/DataManagementPlanUAHSample2.pdf

Data Management Plans Instructions and Sample Plans – University of Michigan
  http://www.lib.umich.edu/research-data-services/nsf-data-management-plans

Data Management Requirements and Templates - Columbia University
http://scholcomm.cul.columbia.edu/data-management/nsf-data-management-plan-requirements-2/

Data Management Plan Resources – University of Nebraska - Lincoln
http://research.unl.edu/proposaldevelopment/nsf-data-management-plan-resources/

Sample plans from UC San Diego
http://rci.ucsd.edu/dmp/examples.html

Sample plans from the University of Pittsburgh
http://www.osp.uah.edu/documents/NSFDMPExamplesUnivofPittsburgh.pdf

Questionnaire to Help with Creation of a Data Management Plan (used by permission: "Johns Hopkins University Data Management Services. (2012) Questionnaire to Help with the Creation of a Data Management Plan [Document]. Retrieved from http://dmp.data.jhu.edu/sites/default/files/Questionnaire.doc. ").   Available for adaption.