

Osaka University Research Data Policy

Approved by the President

March 24, 2023

Osaka University's roots can be traced back to two private academies, Kaitokudo and Tekijuku. Inheriting their free and open-minded spirit, the university has strived to become a place for world-leading academic research, delving into the truth of (1) matters concerning humans and their various societies, (2) all fields related to the environment in which those societies exist, as well as (3) interrelationships shared by all of the aforementioned. Guided by a tradition of respect for practical sciences, Osaka University has conducted education and research in line with the needs of society, while balancing fundamental and applied knowledge. Additionally, focusing on the complementarities among all academic disciplines, as well as promoting interdisciplinary education and research consistent with the new era, are the university's basic principles.

The proper management of research data and its disclosure to the world will protect and enhance the value of the university's research outcomes. As a leading innovative university in Japan, it also facilitates the advanced utilization of research data through the implementation of co-creation activities with society (OU Ecosystem), leading to the realization of the aforementioned basic principle.

1. Purpose

This policy was formulated to establish basic guidelines regarding the handling of research data in the university's research activities with the utmost respect for the proactive research activities of researchers engaged in the university, thereby contributing to the realization of the basic principles of the university.

2. Definitions

For the purpose of this policy, the following terms shall have the meanings hereby assigned:

2.1 Researcher(s)

"Researcher(s)" shall mean all faculty members, students, and others engaged in research activities at Osaka University.

2.2 Research data

“Research data” shall mean information acquired, collected, or generated by researchers in the course of their research activities at the university, or information generated by activities associated with such activities, whether digital or not.

2.3 Research data management

“Research data management” shall mean the management of data at each stage of the data lifecycle, from acquisition and collection of data by researchers to publication and utilization, etc.

3. Researcher’s Responsibilities

In accordance with a Data Management Plan (DMP) developed prior to conducting research, researchers are responsible for the following and management of research data.

3.1 Acquisition, collection, and storage of research data

In order not only to demonstrate the research integrity but also to enhance the value of the research data itself, researchers shall acquire, collect, and store research data in an appropriate manner determined by the said researcher, while complying with relevant laws and regulations, Osaka University rules and regulations, research ethics, and other norms.

3.2 Disclosure and utilization of research data

Based on the recognition that research data can be a valuable source for promoting interdisciplinary research consistent with the new era, researchers shall, in their research activities, make efforts to disclose such data to society to the extent possible and promote its utilization, in principle. Also, researchers shall comply with relevant laws and regulations, Osaka University rules and regulations, research ethics, and other norms, as well as guidelines on the disclosure and utilization of research data separately stipulated within the university. In disclosing the data, efforts shall be made to ensure the quality of the data to facilitate its utilization.

4. Osaka University’s Responsibility

Osaka University is responsible for promoting the provision of an environment that supports research data management.