

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation

Data Sharing and Intellectual Property Policy

Introduction

The Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation works to find and support the bold ideas that will create an enduring impact in environmental conservation, patient care and science.

Foundation funding often results in data (“Data”), and products, such as research, reports, books, software, hardware, videos, and other works of authorship and inventions that may be covered by various intellectual property regimes, such as copyright and patent (“Intellectual Property”).

Foundation Policy

The foundation’s general policy is that Data and Intellectual Property must be managed and disseminated in a manner that leads to the greatest impact. Accordingly, in most cases, Data and Intellectual Property should be owned by the grantee and made available at no cost or, when justified, at a reasonable cost.

We recognize there may be circumstances where limited or delayed dissemination of Data, or a more proprietary or revenue-generating approach to Intellectual Property, may be appropriate to protect legitimate interests of the grantee, principal investigators, and research subjects; or because exclusivity may actually lead to greater impact by, for example, providing incentives for future private investment or a sustainability strategy.

Additionally, the foundation may develop specific applications of this policy in order to achieve the goals of a particular program, initiative, or consortia of grantees.

Applicability

This policy applies equally to grants, program-related investments and other funding vehicles used by the foundation, excluding contracts for services and direct charitable activities.

In all instances, we agree to suitable terms in each grant agreement on a case-by-case basis to ensure the objectives of our policy and its specific applications are met, while respecting the appropriate interests of others. Accordingly, the terms and conditions in our grant agreements, rather than this general policy, will be binding.

Data Sharing and Intellectual Property Plans

As part of the grant development process, the foundation may ask prospective grantees to develop a Data Sharing and/or Intellectual Property Plan. In this case, before funding is approved, the foundation and prospective grantee will agree on a plan that reflects the objectives of this policy. Implementation of the plan will be a condition of the grant and incorporated by reference in the grant agreement. The plan should address the topics described in our Data Sharing and Intellectual Property Packet.

Foundation Data and Intellectual Property

The foundation itself also creates and commissions data and intellectual property, and we adhere to this same policy. We've granted a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs 4.0 International license to the content on our website, (except for photos, logos and publications), which enables anyone to copy, distribute and display our content so long as the user mentions the foundation, links to our website, and does not change the content or use it commercially. We also make data about our grantmaking and finances available in our publicly posted tax returns and audited financial statements and in [Glass Pockets](#).

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