

The research data from this project will be deposited with the Boise State repository, comprised of scalable virtual servers and storage, to ensure that the research community has long-term access to the data. The Office of Information Technology has built a dependable virtual server infrastructure and Network Attached Storage to provide a predictable cost based on a managed and reliable platform. The virtual servers are based on Dell data center hardware, VMware ESX platform software and EqualLogic SAN storage. The platform is built with redundancy and is auto correcting. Servers can be designated Managed or Unmanaged. With an Managed Server System admin services will be shared. Servers designated Unmanaged Server System admin services will be the responsibility of the Researcher or College. The research storage facility provides a high integrity space for storing data, using enterprise-class equipment. Best practice standards for data back up and retrieval will be followed. By utilizing the Boise State repository, our project will ensure that the research data are migrated to new formats, platforms, and storage media as required by good practice. IT and the Division of Research will work with the researcher and the University Library to archive, catalog, and retrieve data as needed to meet grant requirements and the needs of the community of interest. Access to the data will be made available through Scholarworks or other appropriate means. The cost of archiving will be paid with university funds.

Informed consent statements will use language that will not prohibit the data from being shared with the research community. The following language will be used in the informed consent: “The information in this study will only be used in ways that will not reveal who you are. You will not be identified in any publication from this study or in any data files shared with other researchers. Your participation in this study is confidential. Federal or State laws may require us to show information to university or government officials or sponsors, who are responsible for monitoring the safety of this study.” Under mandates from the University, the state, and federal agencies research data must comply with assurances and guidelines set forth to ensure confidentiality and authorized access to research data. The Office of Research Compliance provides information that specially applies to research data involving human subjects, bio-safety, and animal research. In general, research data becomes accessible when the PI and/or the University shares it with collaborators or releases the data for publication or presentation. Prior to that release, all research data requires acknowledgement from the PI and the University to ensure all University, state, and federal regulations are met. General norms for access, security, and confidentiality of research data can be found in BSU’s policy statements for various research activities. Among them are:

*Necessary research materials should be made available to others who attempt to replicate your work, when the PI and/or the University release the data. Institutions that are the recipients of funded research projects own the data from those research projects. The PI for a project has custody of that data and primary responsibility for maintenance of the data record and such matters as securing and preserving the data, which may include lab notebooks, surveys, analysis, and final reports; the confidentiality of sensitive information about human subjects, student status, animal activity, or biosafety materials, if any, in the data record. Collaborators on the research project for which the data was collected have the right to access the data. The research data should be preserved for a reasonable number of years after the final reports or publications resulting from the research, as issued retention periods of time vary, with the nature of the research. The primary data, the methods used to obtain them, and the procedures applied to the primary data to create compilations or derivations must be reported and follow standards for ethical research.*

Boise State University will hold the copyright for the research data generated by its PIs but will grant redistribution rights for purposes of data sharing. Some data gathered may use a copyrighted instrument for some questions. A reproduction of the instrument may be provided to the repository as documentation for the data deposited with the intention that the instrument be distributed under “fair use” to permit data sharing, but it may not be re-disseminated by users.