



## **National Open Research Forum Open Research Fund Transparency Statement 2023**

### **General Statement**

This statement relates to the National Open Research Forum's (NORF)'s Data Protection practices in connection with the collection and processing of information for the purposes of awarding grants and awards. NORF respects your right to privacy and will only use your personal information for the purposes of administering the above grant application/award. This information, which you volunteer to NORF will be treated strictly in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (EU 2016/679).

The coordinating organisation for NORF is the Digital Repository of Ireland (DRI), which is headquartered under the legal entity of the Royal Irish Academy (RIA).

### **Collection and Use of Personal Data for the Purposes of Administering the Open Research Fund Grant Process**

#### *The forms we use*

For the purposes of obtaining grant applications, NORF uses the online Jotform service. Jotform is a US system which has EU servers for EU users and is compliant with EU data protection laws. Further information in relation to Jotform GDPR compliance is available [here](#).

For the purposes of assessing grant applications, NORF uses the online Admincontrol service. Admincontrol is an EEA-based system which is GDPR compliant. For Admincontrol's Privacy Statement please go to <https://admincontrol.com/privacy/>

#### *The purposes for which your data are collected and used*

- For peer-review and competitive assessment by the Open Research Fund for the purpose of making awards.
- For the administration of individual grant awards, including the submission of progress reports and the making of grant payments.
- For accounting and audit purposes.

- For reporting purposes (internally and externally, e.g. to our funding bodies such as the Higher Education Authority).
- In the case of successful grantees select data, limited to name, academic/organisational affiliation, disciplinary background, description of research project, and details of monetary award made, may be used for marketing and publicity purposes. Other data supplied will not be used for these purposes and will remain confidential.

*What happens to your data once it has been submitted online?*

Your data are securely held on Jotform servers before being downloaded onto secure RIA servers, where your data are input into Admincontrol and secure spreadsheets. Access is granted only to nominated grant administrators, and to assessors as appropriate. Business administrators may have access to systems for business continuity purposes. Access is only granted to third party assessors via encrypted connections and is withdrawn upon completion of the assessors' input to the process. Each assessor is also required to sign a confidentiality agreement.

**Retention Policy**

Personal data will only be retained for as long as required to administer NORF grants and awards and for audit purposes. The following retention schedules will apply:

- Jotform applications will be retained only as long as required for input of your data to our grant spreadsheets and will be securely destroyed thereafter.
- Unsuccessful applications will be retained for one calendar year for audit and candidate feedback purposes. These data will be securely deleted thereafter.
- Successful applications including all personal data will be retained for 3 years to allow for administrative follow-up. These data will be securely deleted thereafter.
- Select data limited to name, academic/organisational affiliation, disciplinary background, description of research project, and details of monetary awards made, will be retained for the duration of the project for publicity and marketing purposes and indefinitely for archival and research purposes.
- Final project reports outlining the results of projects funded by the Open Research Fund 2023 will be retained indefinitely and deposited with the Digital Repository of Ireland for the use of researchers and policymakers.

- All ancillary correspondence and documentation will be deleted 3 years post-date of completion of final grant. Purchase Orders will be retained for 3 years. Expense receipts submitted for the purpose of processing grant payments will be held for 7 years and securely deleted thereafter.
- Every effort will be made to minimise applicant data.

### **Disclosure of Personal Information**

The name, academic/organisational affiliation, disciplinary background, and project description of successful NORF grantees will be published on the NORF website, social media channels and in select NORF publications (e.g. updates relating to the implementation of the National Action Plan for Open Research). For auditing and transparency purposes, NORF must also publish the details of any monetary grant awarded. Any other disclosures will only be made in accordance with the provisions of the GDPR, the Data Protection Acts (1988-2018) and the Freedom of Information Act.

**Disclaimer:** Please note that NORF does not have control over information/images which are posted on social media once published.

Your rights: You have the right to access your data; to rectify incorrect data; to object to unfair processing; to restrict processing and to withdraw consent (if this has been required). You may also exercise the right to be forgotten.

### **Further Information**

If you have any queries or seek clarification on any aspect of this document, please contact NORF directly at [norf@ria.ie](mailto:norf@ria.ie)

You may request a copy of your personal data held by NORF. To make a subject access request please contact the Data Protection Officer Wayne Aherne: Phone: 00 353 1 6090619 Email: [dataprotection@ria.ie](mailto:dataprotection@ria.ie), Address: Royal Irish Academy, 19 Dawson Street, Dublin, D02 HH58.

All enquiries will be dealt with in confidence. The RIA's Data Protection Policy is accessible here: <https://www.ria.ie/privacy-and-data-protection>