

# Institutional Membership in



The Qualitative Data Repository (QDR) is the first domain repository in the United States dedicated to curating, storing, preserving, and publishing digital data generated through qualitative and multi-method research in the social and health sciences, law, education and the humanities. Key activities include:

- **DEVELOPING GUIDANCE** for managing, sharing, citing, and reusing qualitative data, and contributing to the generation of common standards for doing so.
- **OFFERING CUSTOMIZED WORKSHOPS** and training sessions for researchers and data librarians on qualitative data management.
- **ENCOURAGING DATA SHARING**, broadening access to such data, and thus strengthening qualitative and multi-method research.

QDR provides the infrastructure and expertise necessary to publish qualitative data. Our curators are specialists in addressing the challenges that can arise when researchers share data. Our skilled staff:

- **HELP DEPOSITORS** to format and prepare data using best practices, and to share their data legally and ethically.
- **ASSIST DEPOSITORS** in creating comprehensive documentation, and translating that documentation into standardized metadata formats.
- **ASSIGN DOIs** to all data and ensure their discoverability through meta-searches such as OSF Share, the Dataverse catalog, and DataCite search.
- **TRACK AND DOCUMENT THE RE-USE OF DATA** so that reuse is captured in citation metrics such as Making Data Count.

**We hope your institution joins QDR!**  
**We want to work with your faculty, students, and research staff as they share their data.**



## Main disciplines QDR serves

- Anthropology
- Education
- Health sciences
- Political science
- Psychology
- Sociology
- History
- And others!

## Main types of data deposited

- Text
- Images
- Audio
- Video
- Geospatial
- Tabular
- CAQDAS
- Specialized disciplinary formats

## QDR Innovates

QDR, Hypothesis (an open-source software company) and Cambridge University Press have partnered to develop Annotation for Transparent Inquiry (ATI). ATI links 'open annotations' comprising analytic notes, excerpts from supporting sources, and data sources themselves directly to passages in articles published on multiple platforms. An ATI Pilot Working Group including scholars from multiple disciplines is using ATI to increase the openness of their scholarship, including articles published in top journals in the health and social sciences. [See a visual depiction of ATI at qdr.org/ati](http://qdr.org/ati).

## QDR Convenes

QDR's staff facilitates conversation among key stakeholders on how researchers can balance and coordinate different mandates. For example, data sharing can be constrained by the need to protect human participants. QDR and other domain repositories, university IRBs, publishers, and funders are working together to develop guidance and template informed consent script language that address challenges to sharing data generated through interactions with human participants.




## Technology

- Cluster of high-performance servers and virtual private networks (VPNs)
- Hosted by Amazon Web Services (AWS)
- Open-source repository software Dataverse
  - Customized for qualitative and multi-method data and QDR's curation workflow
  - QDR actively contributes to software's rapid development.

## Workflow and Policies

- Repository operations are managed through fully documented workflows.
- QDR has published and follows a set of policies, including collections development/acquisition, curation, privacy, security, preservation, and sensitive data.
- Certified as a trustworthy digital repository through CoreTrustSeal (successor to Data Seal of Approval)
  - Demonstrates compliance with 16 core requirements
  - Includes peer review to ensure that our policies and procedures conform to internationally recognized best practices

## Preservation

- Member of the Data Preservation Alliance for the Social Sciences (Data-PASS), a consortium of social sciences data archives in the U.S. with mutual guarantees of continued access to data
  - Additional long-term storage in off-site servers using BagIt and OAI-ORE metadata following Research Data Alliance (RDA) recommendations
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# Institutional Membership in



Institutional membership fees support the curation and preservation of data projects deposited with QDR by scholars affiliated with member institutions. Prices are quoted in USD.

	Annual Fee 2023-2024	Annual Fee 2024-2025 <i>(estimated)</i>
Tier 1 (5 projects)	\$600	\$1,000
Tier 2 (10 projects)	\$900	\$1,500
Tier 3 (20 projects)	\$1,200	\$2,000

- **COVERAGE:** Only one unit or division of an institution (for example the library or a social science research center) needs to join QDR for the entire institution to be considered a member. All of the institution's current affiliates — researchers, faculty, students and staff — are eligible to have a project curated by QDR under their membership agreement.
- **COORDINATION:** Member institutions designate an Institutional Representative. Institutional Representatives serve as liaison between the institution and QDR and participate in repository governance. That appointee will also decide which of the data projects deposited with QDR by affiliates of the institution will count against the institution's allotment of 5, 10 or 20 projects.
- **DURATION:** Institutional memberships with QDR run per academic year (beginning on July 1 and ending on June 30). If scholars deposit fewer data projects than the institution purchased for a particular year, 40% of that annual allotment may be rolled to the following year.
- **COST:** Data projects deposited under an institutional membership agreement are generally curated and preserved with no charge to the depositor. Data projects that are larger or involve more complicated assistance than is the norm for QDR deposits may bear additional fees; these are usually agreed during the initial consultation between the depositor and QDR and charged to the depositor.

You can download the formal Institutional Membership Agreement at [qdr.org/imform](https://qdr.org/imform).

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