



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA

MEMORANDUM

Computer Services Center

DATE: April 16, 2025

TO: Christopher Davies
Dusty Layton

FROM: David Furman 

SUBJECT: NIH Genomic Data Sharing Policy

As of January 25, 2025, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has implemented updated policy guidance for the handling and storage of controlled-access human genomic and phenotypic data maintained in NIH-designated repositories, and to which access is granted to researchers under the NIH Genomic Data Sharing Policy. Specifically, all data downloaded from these repositories may only be stored on systems that are compliant with the NIST 800-171 standards for storage of Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI). Adherence to this requirement will be included in all new or renewed Data Use Certifications, and must be attested to by the institution. If any controlled-access data is going to be stored in a cloud environment, certification must be obtained from the cloud provider attesting to compliance with this standard. A list of NIH controlled-access repositories whose information is subject to the updated requirements can be found at the below link:

<https://sharing.nih.gov/accessing-data/NIH-security-best-practices>

Any covered data which is being stored pursuant to Agreements awarded prior to the above date needs to be secured according to the NIH Security Best Practices for Controlled-Access Data, which can be found at the below link:

https://sharing.nih.gov/sites/default/files/flmng/NIH_Best_Practices_for_Controlled-Access_Data_Subject_to_the_NIH_GDS_Policy.pdf

Any questions regarding implementation of these guidelines can be directed to the USA Office of Information Security at infosec@southalabama.edu.