

The Division of Ocean Sciences anticipates that most geological samples will be archived at NSF-approved repositories. Alternate archiving strategies must be based on compelling justification, documented in the Data Management Plan, and approved by the cognizant Program Officer. All physical geological samples (solid, gas, liquid) must be assigned unique sample identifiers (IGSNs), and this identifier for the samples and any analyses associated with those samples should be referred to in any publication. IGSNs can be generated from the online [IEDA IGSN assignment tool](#).

Not all biological material can (or should) be accommodated at NSF-approved facilities. PIs should archive voucher and type specimens as dictated by community standards and practices, as required by journals for publication and as appropriate to support research results. Sharing of valuable biological sample material is highly encouraged and can be facilitated by providing metadata, indicating that samples are available early in the development of a research program.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

PIs are required to provide updates on the status of metadata and data archival in Annual Project Reports. Compliance with the project Data Management Plan must be documented in the Final Project Report. If not deposited in an approved federally or NSF-funded repository, URL's for archived metadata and data should be included in these reports in the section entitled "Products-Websites." Where the Final Report is due before the required date of sample or data submission, the PI must report submission of metadata and plans for final data/sample submission. The PI should notify the cognizant Program Officer by e-mail after final data and/or sample submission has occurred, even if this is after the expiration date of the award. The ultimate disposition of data and samples also should be described in "Results from Prior NSF Support" section of future proposals submitted by the PI, as per guidelines in [PAPPG Chapter II.C.2.d.iii.e](#).