



## ODC SCI Policy for Non-Institutional Users

All registered users who request to join the ODC-SCI Community (becoming an [ODC General Community Member](#) and thereby gaining the ability to join ODC-SCI labs and explore the ODC-SCI Community data space) are reviewed by the ODC oversight committee. This process exists to mitigate data misuse and ensure proper handling of unpublished data as a response to feedback and concerns from the scientific research community. Users affiliated with a scientific, government, or academic institute that we recognize (collectively termed **institutional users**) are generally approved, provided that the users registered with a valid institutional email address.

When users who are not affiliated with a recognized institution (i.e. **non-institutional users**) request to join the ODC-SCI Community, they will be contacted and asked to submit additional information including:

- Company/Affiliation (if applicable)
- Description of the institute/affiliation with link to institute (if applicable)
- Description of interest in the ODC-SCI (required)
- A referral by a member of the ODC-SCI Leadership Team or the ODC-SCI Executive Board (required)

The user's name, email, and additional information will be automatically provided to respective PIs when the user (1) requests to join a lab or (2) requests access to an unpublished dataset. This will help PIs and the ODC-SCI oversight committee determine whether a non-institutional user's request is appropriate. The information will also be provided to any ODC-SCI Community Member upon request.

Non-institutional users will also receive annual requests to update their applicant information and their use of the ODC-SCI including:

- Citations of each published manuscript

ODC-SCI reserves the right to require additional follow-up information. Additionally, ODC-SCI reserves the right to reject a request or remove access to the ODC-SCI at any time.

Non-compliance with the terms of use or inappropriate behavior could result in removal from the ODC-SCI community. Inappropriate behavior includes but is not limited to:

- Failure to uphold the ODC-SCI Data Use Agreement or Terms of Use
- Spamming requests to join ODC-SCI labs
- Inappropriate contact with other ODC-SCI Community members
- Spamming requests to access non-public datasets
- Accessing (i.e. downloading) datasets that are not relevant to the description of interest



Open Data Commons for SCI

[odc-sci.org](http://odc-sci.org)

It is expected that most users who join the ODC-SCI Community will act in good faith. Any breach of the Data Use Agreement or Terms of Use within the community (pending investigation) will result in removal of access to the ODC-SCI.