

Research Link Australia Service Schedule for Data Consumers

1 Background

Research Link Australia (**RLA**) is a discovery service operated by ARDC. RLA seeks to bridge the information gap between universities, research organisations, businesses, industry and government. ARDC manages and maintains information (also referred as data in this context) from data providers and points to the information's source location. This information includes, but is not limited to, profiles of researchers, organisations and/or companies; research activities (e.g. projects and awarded grants), publications, and facilities (e.g. instruments). ARDC also provides a suite of information discovery and access services to make this information widely available and reusable, in order to facilitate research and industry collaboration opportunities.

ARDC works with data providers and data consumers to improve information quality and enable more information about research capability and research collaborative capability to be publicly available. ARDC also works with RLA data consumers to improve the RLA Service.

This Service Schedule applies to data consumers that access RLA data via the RLA Service tools (e.g. APIs or bulk download of RLA data) for purposes including the data in their own database or reusing data in a third party's service. Any individual or organisation who is involved in accessing and reusing RLA data is referred to as a data consumer.

Individuals or organisations wishing to access and reuse data from the RLA Service via the API are required to sign the Service Schedule below.

2 User (data consumer)

Contact Name: _____

Organisation Name: _____ ACN/ABN: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

3 Service

RLA Portal: a publicly available, online service for anyone to use to discover research collaboration capabilities of Australian researchers and organisations (from both research and industry sectors), as well as government funded R&D initiatives.

RLA Content Registration: this allows data providers to register and update data via machine or human interfaces. Data providers may choose to publish data related to research capabilities and research collaboration capabilities (e.g. collaborative grants/projects to RLA). ARDC will publish provided data as they are, but may link provided data to other existing RLA data (for example, linking a researcher's record to the researcher's publications, grants, etc.), or include data into insight reporting (for example, if a researcher is from a particular university, the researcher's publications and grants may be linked to that university's capability profile).

RLA APIs: these data consumers to systematically query, access, and download RLA data through computer programs. Data consumers need to contact ARDC to be able to access this service.

4 Term

This agreement will commence on the date of signature or when the User first accesses the Service, whichever is earlier, and will continue until 30 June 2028 (**Initial Term**). After 30 June 2028, this agreement will be automatically extended for successive 12-month periods (**Extended Term**).

The User may terminate this agreement by providing ARDC with at least 3 months' notice in writing effective at the end of the Initial Term or effective at the end of any Extended Term.

ARDC may terminate this agreement at any time by providing the User with 1 month's notice in writing effective at the end of the notice period.

Without limiting ARDC's other rights, ARDC may terminate this agreement immediately on notice to the User if the User breaches any term of the agreement.

5 Additional terms

5.1 ARDC responsibilities

In addition to ARDC's rights under its Standard Terms of Service, ARDC will endeavour to operate the Service and may take steps including:

- *Content reliability*: checking the reliability of metadata as provided by data providers;
- *Transparency*: indicating the origin of the metadata to help data consumers assess the data's credibility and make their own informed judgements;
- *Privacy protection*: communicating the RLA data privacy policies and practices, including how consumer data is handled, stored, and shared under the [ARDC Privacy Policy](#);
- *Feedback mechanism*: establishing a feedback mechanism for data consumers to report inaccuracies, or any issues with the third-party data or data as enhanced by the Service;
- *Data curation*: developing curation policies for selecting, organising, and presenting third-party data. This involves applying tools and services to enhance user experience and maintain data quality standards. (See also the [RLA data curation policy](#)); and
- *Audits*: conducting audits of third-party content to ensure ongoing compliance with metadata standards. This includes periodic review of data quality and relevance.

5.2 User (data consumer) responsibilities

In addition to ARDC's rights under its Standard Terms of Service, the User acknowledges and agrees that in using the Service, the User must:

- *Licence checking*: check and refer to specific permissions associated with all data content for relevant terms of use, and comply with all such terms of use. The User acknowledges that metadata included in the Service is subject to licences, intellectual property protection and policies (including any data reuse policies) of the applicable data providers;
- *Keep original data reuse conditions*: unless otherwise stated, not remove any part of any copyright or other terms and conditions when reusing downloaded data from the Service;
- *Data reuse notification*: notify ARDC if bulk data (i.e. all data as provided by RLA) accessed via the Service is reused in any product (both openly available or in a commercial product);
- *Data accuracy checks prior to disclosure*: prior to any disclosure of data to a third party, check the data against current metadata on the Service, to ensure the data remains accurate and current; and

- *Provide data use acknowledge and attribution:* clearly acknowledge their source in the following format, in a reasonable prominence in connection with all uses of the data:

Data was sourced from Australian Research Data Commons (ARDC) Research Link Australia, which is enabled by the Australian Government's National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (NCRIS).

Execution

Signed by an authorised representative on behalf of the User as an agreement on the terms of this Service Schedule and ARDC's Standard Terms of Service, available on its website at https://ardc.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/ardc_service_agreement_2024.pdf.

Signed by **Australian Research Data Commons Limited:**

Signed by **User (Organisation)**

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Signature of authorised person

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Signature of authorised person

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Office held

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Office held

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Name (print)

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Name (print)

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Date

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Date