Getting Started with DataCite Canada

DataCite Canada is working with Canadian research data centres to provide a mechanism for organizations to register data and assign digital object identifiers (DOIs) to them. DOIs are persistent identifiers that allow research data to be accessible and citable. They provide long-term links to data and allow published articles to link to their underlying data.

Who can use the DataCite Canada services?
Organizations that manage research data are eligible for an account with DataCite Canada. This includes universities, libraries, government departments and other research data centres. To receive a DataCite Canada account, data centres must have the authority and responsibility to store and maintain access to the data to which the DOIs will be assigned.

What do I need to register research data with DataCite Canada?
The mandatory requirements for registering research data are:
- A web-based landing page which either links to the data or gives information on how to get the data. This page may also contain information and links to tools for reading and interpreting the data.
- A URL to the landing page
- The mandatory metadata, as defined in the DataCite Metadata Schema

What are the account holder’s responsibilities?
By requesting a DataCite account, data centres agree to be responsible for:
- Ensuring that the data is stored and managed such that persistent access to the data can be provided.
- Data registration using DataCite’s Metadata Store system or API.
- Ensuring that any changes to the URLs associated with the DOI are updated accordingly within the DOI registration system.
- Metadata integrity: ensuring that the metadata assigned to the data is, and remains, accurate, valid and complete.

How do I set up an account?
Account creation and management is done by a DataCite Canada representative (NRC.DataCiteCanada.CNRC@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca).

To obtain an account, you will need to provide the following information:
- Primary contact person name and email address
• Organization name
• All DOI registration domains: DOI registration domains are the URL domains for all data sets being registered. If the landing page for a data set is not listed under your account, the system will generate an error when registering the DOI.

We encourage individual researchers who are interested in DOIs to contact their own organizations about setting up an account with DataCite Canada. If we can provide further information or otherwise assist, please contact us.

What can I assign a DOI to?
DataCite Canada will provide DOI names to research data. In this case, research data is defined as:
• data sets
• data papers
• grey literature

DataCite Canada and NRC
DataCite Canada is an initiative of the National Research Council’s National Science Library. The library is working to ensure that the valuable data generated by Canadian researchers is accessible so that it can be re-used for other research endeavours to speed up the innovation process. NRC is a founding member of the broader international DataCite consortium and is its DOI allocation agent for Canada.

More about DataCite Canada:
www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/datacite
NRC.DataCiteCanada.CNRC@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca