National Secure Data Service Demonstration Project: What You Need to Know
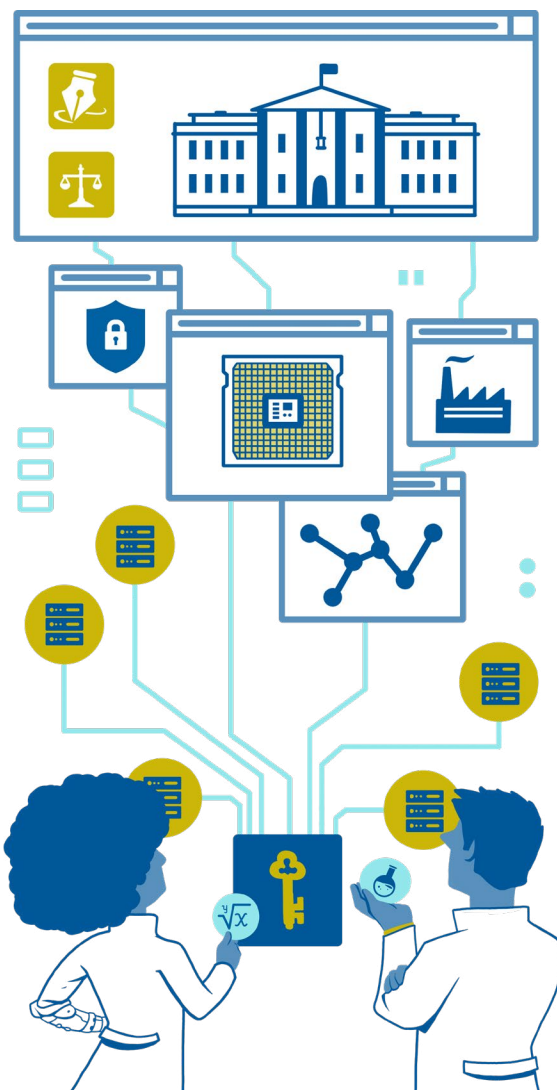
The recent signing of the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022 has inspired interest in the National Secure Data Service through piloting a demonstration project. Below you'll find answers to common questions about the project.

What did the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022 authorize for the NSDS-D?

On August 9, 2022, President Joe Biden signed the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022 into law. The legislation authorized the National Science Foundation (NSF) to establish a National Secure Data Service Demonstration Project, or NSDS-D, operated directly or via a contract by the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES). Per Section 10375, the NSDS-D must:

- Consult with the OMB and the National Artificial Intelligence Initiative Act of 2020 Interagency Committee.

- Align with recommendations from the Advisory Committee on Data for Evidence Building (ACDEB).

- Engage with Federal, state, local, and tribal government agencies in support of evidence building.

- Use processes, systems, and technologies to protect restricted data, statistical products, privacy, and confidentiality under the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act (CIPSEA) of 2018.

- Ensure transparency to the American public.

What is the vision for the National Secure Data Service (NSDS)?

An NSDS would provide a platform of shared services to streamline and innovate data access, data linkage, and privacy-protections to support expanded data use. Collaboration with all levels of government — including state, local, and tribal governments, as well as non-government stakeholders — will be critical in developing this data ecosystem. The ultimate goal of an NSDS is to support decision-making through the use of data, with particular emphasis on decisions about public programs and policy.

To support this vision, investments to enhance innovations for data linking, data protection, and streamlining processes across the federal government will be critical. The five-year demonstration project (NSDS-D) will inform decisions about whether an NSDS is established and the form it will take, determining what shared services are needed and are most effective, as well as what innovations can support an NSDS.

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AMERICA'S DATAHUB CONSORTIUM

ICSP

How is the NSDS-D related to America's DataHub Consortium?

NSF and NCSES established America's DataHub Consortium (ADC) in August 2021 to enable evidence-building by streamlining collaboration between researchers, innovators, and subject matter experts. The NSDS-D will create and test the infrastructure and resources that support this shared-service operational model.

ADC

ADC utilizes an innovative, flexible, and scalable acquisition process that adapts emerging challenges with secured federal and nonfederal data to inform decision-makers and benefit the American public. It is a public-private partnership that brings together experts from government, industry, and academia to collaboratively research and solve our nation's toughest challenges.

NSDS-D

While the NSDS-D and ADC are different and distinct, their efforts are complementary. ADC is testing potential solutions that demonstrate how data service structures and functions could grow, adapt, and evolve over time to inform the vision for the NSDS.

What's next for the NSDS-D?

NCSES, in coordination with the NSF, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy (ICSP), continues to discuss next steps for the demonstration project to ensure we meet the requirements in the law as well as adhere to the strict security and privacy standards as a principal statistical agency. Funded research opportunities in support of NSDS-D have — and will continue — to be solicited through the ADC.

☼ IDEA BANK

Calling all ideas! We are inviting input from all stakeholders that may be used to inform future project solicitations and other activities America's Datahub Consortium will undertake, including those to inform a potential National Secure Data Service.

To Submit Ideas, Click Here

How do I get involved?

We encourage you to explore the projects and capabilities as part of America's DataHub Consortium. Sign up to be added to the mailing list so you can continue to be informed of all the latest news and opportunities.

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