





LSST Data Rights and Funding Model

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Decision Made!



NSF and DOE have reached agreement on LSST Data Rights and Funding model.

- NSF and DOE acknowledge the value of international partnerships for LSST.
- NSF and DOE are working to revise the partnership model to focus on in-kind contributions instead of monetary contributions.
- Original model sought 25% operations funds from International Contributors, but to date sufficient funding has not been identified.
- To ensure operations planning moves ahead smoothly, a new model for Data Access Rights and Operations Funding is being developed by NSF and DOE to ensure full support of LSST Operations.





New Model



Following careful consideration of potential approaches, NSF and DOE agree on the following points to move LSST operations planning forward:

- LSST will maintain the proprietary period for LSST data release and the open LSST alert stream with no proprietary period as previously planned---i.e., no change.
- The agencies have no plans to de-scope LSST operations and are working with their awardees (AURA and SLAC) on updated budget and operations planning.
- Following agencies' approval, the LSST project team will soon publish data rights and data access policies for LSST.
- International participants may enjoy the same data access rights as US scientists in exchange for in-kind contributions to the LSST construction project, facility operations, and/or related astrophysical resources as considered and agreed to jointly by the agencies (NSF and DOE).
- A new LSST Resource Board, led by NSF and DOE, will oversee and coordinate in-kind contributions and provide a forum for project contributors to participate in the LSST resource planning. The details of that Resource Board will be developed over the next year.





What Comes Next?



The agencies (NSF and DOE) recognize the importance of the contributions of the current PIs of international participants to the development of the LSST science collaborations and the LSST project through their efforts to date.

- NSF's and DOE's intent is for international participants to retain their status within the project through new agreements between their agencies (or institutions, if applicable) and NSF and DOE. The status of these international participants will remain unchanged until this process is completed by June 30, 2021.
- Implementation details of this new model are first being developed among NSF and DOE and their awardees, AURA and SLAC.





What Comes Next?



We will work with international participants to explore possible in-kind contributions that might provide NSF and DOE sufficient value in exchange for rights and access to LSST proprietary data. NSF and DOE will consider most favorably proposed in-kind contributions that, for example, will offset NSF and DOE costs for operations and/or expand the resources available to the U.S. astrophysical and high energy physics communities.

- Examples of desirable in-kind contributions to LSST might include dedicated software development staff or computing resources that offset LSST operational costs, or access to complementary data sets or follow-up facilities.
- Existing in-kind agreements will be reassigned to NSF, DOE, or an NSF-designated agent and will be implemented. Beyond this, no other significant changes are expected from the original plans regarding in-kind contributions or LSST data rights.

What Comes Next?



- There will be no monetary exchange for data rights.
- In-kind agreements will go through NSF, DOE, AURA, and SLAC as appropriate, not LSST Corporation.
- International participants will have a new point of contact (POC): NSF, DOE, AURA or SLAC.



