

ACI FOUNDATION INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY POLICY

I. INTRODUCTION

Foundation grants often result in tangible products, such as reports, papers, research, data sets, curriculum, or books (“Grant Work Product”). This policy guides the Foundation’s approach to the ownership and use of Grant Work Product. Recipients of grants are expected to have policies in place reasonably consistent with the underlying philosophy and principles reflected in this Policy.

II. POLICY

The Foundation's policy is to ensure that use of the Grant Work Product benefits the public. To that end, the Foundation seeks prompt and broad dissemination or availability of the Grant Work Product.

Grant Work Product should, whenever feasible, be licensed by the Grantee, under a licensing system that provides for wide distribution or access to the public, such as Creative Commons. The Foundation also expects openness in research and freedom of access to research results and, when feasible, to the underlying data by persons with a serious interest in the research. To enhance dissemination, ACIF will maintain an archive of final project reports and each report will be assigned a digital object identifier (DOI).

The Foundation recognizes there may be circumstances where limited or delayed dissemination of Grant Work Product, delayed or non-registration of impact studies, or limited or delayed access to data may be appropriate to protect legitimate interests of the grantee, other funders, principal investigators or participants in research studies. Such circumstances will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Ownership of intellectual property rights (including copyright and patent rights) should not be used to limit or deny access to the Grant Work Product, to result in exclusive use of such Grant Work Product, or to create revenue that is not used substantially for charitable purposes. Copyright to or patent rights in the Grant Work Product will ordinarily remain with the grantee. The Foundation will be granted a no-cost assignable license to use or publish the Grant Work Product. The Foundation may forego or limit the requirement of a license if the Foundation is reasonably satisfied that other appropriate arrangements will be implemented that will ensure the goals of this policy.

In all instances, the Foundation will agree to suitable terms at the time a grant is made based on the facts to ensure the objectives of the policy are met while respecting appropriate interests of others.