

US Government ORCID Consortium Operating Parameters

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to define membership features, governance, roles, responsibilities, and costs for establishing and operating a US Government ORCID Consortium (Open Researcher and Contributor ID, a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization).

Background

ORCID is a global, community-led organization providing digital identifiers (ORCID iDs) to researchers for the benefit of being uniquely identified and reliably connected with their professional information (affiliations, awards, publications, and more). ORCID iDs are an effective solution for author disambiguation, improving authors' potential for recognition, and discoverability of their research.

The ORCID registry is free for individual researchers to register, maintain, and share their ORCID identifiers and associated ORCID record. Organizations may integrate ORCID identifiers into research systems and workflows using a freely available public ORCID Application Programming Interface (API). Organizations can also become paying members and gain access to additional API features, functionality, and technical support not included with the public API.

In 2013, the Department of Energy Office of Scientific and Technical Information (DOE OSTI) became an ORCID member and began collecting ORCID iDs with submitted research results. In 2016, DOE OSTI began providing a service allowing authors to auto populate their ORCID profiles by claiming research results in OSTI.GOV. Several DOE-affiliated organizations have also realized the value of using, collecting, and integrating ORCID iDs and ORCID API services into their information workflows. DOE national laboratories, user facilities, and laboratory libraries are starting to collect and use ORCID iDs to track research outputs and awards, determine the impact of user facilities, and evaluate the outcomes of outreach efforts.

Because of this increased involvement from across the complex, ORCID suggested DOE consider a consortium membership. On April 1st, 2020, OSTI established the DOE ORCID Consortium. Through many conversations with other federal agencies and ORCID, a broad, US government-wide consortium was of interest. Based on DOE OSTI's experience with establishing the consortium, OSTI and ORCID felt DOE should broaden the existing consortium to include other federal agencies – now referred to as the US Government ORCID Consortium.

US Government ORCID Consortium Membership Model

Consortium Features

As part of the US Government ORCID Consortium, all members have access to full features of premium ORCID membership for a substantially reduced fee. Premium membership is the highest level of ORCID membership.

Premium membership features include:

- 5 API keys (instead of 1 API key included in the basic membership) – which allow large labs or organizations the ability to integrate with multiple systems. Members may purchase additional API keys for \$1,125 each/year.
- On demand access to Public Data File – which allows for immediate access to ORCID data. Basic members only have snapshot access twice annually.
- Update notifications (webhooks) – which allow for API-based notifications when changes are made to ORCID records for iDs embedded in member system(s) and allow for real-time pull of information included in ORCID profiles.

- Monthly analytics reports – which allow for more frequent personalized reports for each API key. Basic membership only provides general reports twice annually.
- Additional webinar-style orientation meetings / support calls with ORCID to aid in integration and development.
- A summary of the different member categories including the Premium membership benefits included with consortium membership can be found [here](#).

Community of Practice

In addition to the premium membership features, the US Government ORCID Consortium established and leads a Community of Practice. The Community of Practice is open to all consortium members interested in participating. The Community of Practice shares best practices, use cases, discusses challenges, raises ORCID awareness, shares ORCID integration ideas, identifies cross facility/office collaborations, and offers benchmarking to consortium members. This occurs through regular, virtual Community of Practice meetings. Additional Community of Practice activities may include conducting webinars and hosting workshops.

The Consortium Lead

DOE OSTI is the US Government ORCID Consortium Lead. The key responsibilities of the Consortium Lead are:

- Providing administrative support to consortium members
- Managing and supporting the onboarding of consortium members
- Providing assistance with planning ORCID integrations
- Serving as the central technical support contact to consortium members
- Maintaining consortium documentation and technical documentation repositories
- Providing the community of practice

The stated responsibilities and service provisions of the Consortium Lead are in accordance with the terms and conditions specified under Exhibit 2 of the ORCID Consortium Agreement.

As the Consortium Lead, DOE OSTI serves as a bridge with ORCID in both communications and technical support and in the early stages of consortium membership to onboard consortium members. DOE OSTI acts as the primary point of contact between consortium members and ORCID; however, this does not preclude direct communication between ORCID and US Government ORCID Consortium members. For example, during technical integration development, consortium members may work directly with ORCID technical support. DOE OSTI will also keep the community informed about ORCID developments related to infrastructure, best practices from other members and consortia, and ORCID projects of interest. DOE OSTI requests that in cases where consortium members communicate with ORCID directly, members include ORCIDconsortium@osti.gov on the communications for information purposes.

DOE OSTI provides administrative, community, and technical support staff to assist with consortium onboarding, general questions, community support, technical support, and other consortium needs. Questions/comments about the consortium, integrations, and technical support should be sent to ORCIDconsortium@osti.gov. Consortium members can expect communication responses within 24 hours during business hours. Any immediate technical questions directly related to ORCID APIs or integrations can be sent to ORCID (support@orcid.org) while keeping the Consortium Lead POCs looped in.

Membership Criteria

Membership in the US Government ORCID Consortium is open to US Government-affiliated organizations, including, but not limited to, US Government agencies and affiliated program offices, national libraries, DOE National Laboratories, and US government user facilities.

A version of the ORCID Consortium Agreement, negotiated and signed by DOE, was used to establish the US Government ORCID Consortium. Reach out to ORCIDconsortium@osti.gov for a copy of the DOE ORCID Consortium Agreement. Each consortium member is required to sign the Accession Agreement (which is part of the DOE ORCID Consortium Agreement in Exhibit 3 with ORCID Inc.). The Accession Agreement is signed by the member organization and ORCID when the organization becomes an ORCID member through the US Government ORCID Consortium.

Consortium Membership Fees

Each consortium member pays ORCID a consortium membership fee to be an ORCID member. The consortium membership fee is determined by ORCID and the ORCID Board. It is currently associated with the total number of consortium members and the organization's annual budget (detailed below). ORCID can update its consortium membership fee annually. Any change greater than a 3% difference must be approved by the ORCID Board. ORCID must provide the Consortium Lead notice of changes to the consortium membership fee. DOE OSTI, as the Consortium Lead, will communicate any ORCID consortium membership fee changes to all consortium members.

In addition to the ORCID consortium membership fee, interagency (non-DOE-affiliated) consortium members pay an additional administrative cost recovery fee for consortium operations. The administrative cost recovery fee is not required for DOE-affiliated consortium members because the consortium is a service OSTI provides for DOE organizations. The administrative cost recovery fee can be updated based on the cost and amount of work needed to support to the US Government ORCID Consortium. DOE OSTI will discuss any proposed changes to the administrative cost recovery fee with members prior to making a change.

The consortium membership fees and administrative cost recovery fees are paid to DOE OSTI. DOE OSTI pays ORCID the membership fee for all consortium members.

Consortium members need to provide a procurement POC with whom DOE OSTI will set up the appropriate interagency financial agreement (for interagency members) or memorandum of understanding (MOU) (for DOE-affiliation members) outlining the details of the agreement, along with an authorizing purchase order (PO) or funds transfer for payment of the annual consortium membership fee and administrative cost recovery fee (if applicable).

The billing cycle begins April 1st of each year. If a member joins the consortium after April 1st, ORCID will charge the consortium a pro-rated membership fee for the new consortium member and DOE OSTI will charge interagency members a pro-rated administrative cost recovery fee. The pro-rated membership fees will be determined based on the date the Accession Agreement and interagency financial agreement documents and/or MOU are signed and will end March 31st of the following year.

If a US Government-affiliated organization is a current direct/individual ORCID membership (but wants to transition to become a member through the US Government ORCID Consortium), we encourage them to join the consortium as their direct membership is ending (prior to renewal). If the organization joins with an active direct ORCID membership, the organization (through the consortium) will receive a credit from ORCID based on the start/renewal date of their individual ORCID membership.

Consortium Fees for DOE-Affiliated Consortium Members

Annual ORCID Consortium Membership Fee			
	Membership Tier 1 Annual Budget < \$10M	Membership Tier 2 Annual Budget \$10M - \$1B	Membership Tier 3 Annual Budget > \$1B
5-9 members	\$ 3,395 per member	\$ 6,735 per member	\$ 9,070 per member
10-19 members	\$ 2,810 per member	\$ 5,625 per member	\$ 7,585 per member
20-34 members	\$ 2,280 per member	\$ 4,510 per member	\$ 6,105 per member
35-59 members	\$ 1,960 per member	\$ 3,925 per member	\$ 5,305 per member
60+ members	\$ 1,700 per member	\$ 3,395 per member	\$ 4,565 per member
Additional API credentials	\$ 1,125 per credential		

Consortium Fees for Interagency Consortium Members

Annual ORCID Consortium Membership Fee				Administrative Cost Recovery Fee
	Membership Tier 1 Annual Budget < \$10M	Membership Tier 2 Annual Budget \$10M - \$1B	Membership Tier 3 Annual Budget > \$1B	
5-9 members	\$ 3,395 per member	\$ 6,735 per member	\$ 9,070 per member	\$2,500 per member
10-19 members	\$ 2,810 per member	\$ 5,625 per member	\$ 7,585 per member	\$2,500 per member
20-34 members	\$ 2,280 per member	\$ 4,510 per member	\$ 6,105 per member	\$2,500 per member
35-59 members	\$ 1,960 per member	\$ 3,925 per member	\$ 5,305 per member	\$2,500 per member
60+ members	\$ 1,700 per member	\$ 3,395 per member	\$ 4,565 per member	\$2,500 per member
Additional API credentials	\$ 1,125 per credential			