

D R A F T

World Data Center Certification Criteria

To be fully certified as a World Data Center, the activity must pass the two accreditation phases listed below.

Phase 1

1. Provide full and open access to metadata, data and information on a nondiscriminatory basis, without restriction with minimum time delay. The data will be provided free, as an exchange of data or for no more than the cost of reproduction.
2. Maintain a web-accessible directory of holdings. The directory should adhere to national or international standards.
3. Provide a means for users to find and download data online.
 - a. Measure the time it takes to download data from point A to point B as a the “download” time, i.e., the time to actually transfer data from one computer system to another
 - b. Measure total time from request to data receipt (when actually useable), i.e., “wall” time.

Phase 2

1. Have data holdings which are scientifically relevant as determined by ICSU.
2. Make meaningful contributions to ICSU program (s) resulting in endorsement by ICSU member