

research-and-scholarship

Jump to:

[What is Research and Scholarship category?](#) | [How does Research and Scholarship work?](#) | [Joining Research and Scholarship category](#) | [Further reading](#)



Skip ahead

This article explains the Research and Scholarship (R&S) category in detail. To join the R&S category, see:

For Identity Provider

[Identity Provider - support Research and Scholarship](#)

For Service Provider

[Service Provider - apply for Research and Scholarship category](#)

In this section

- [Identity provider - support Research and Scholarship](#)
- [Service provider - apply for Research and Scholarship category](#)
- [Research and Scholarship Deployment Considerations](#)
- [Research and Scholarship FAQ](#)
- [Tagging an entity with Research and Scholarship entity attribute](#)
- [Comparing REFEDS and InCommon-only R and S categories](#)
- [Research and Scholarship category](#)
- [REFEDS Research and Scholarship Dashboard](#)

What is Research and Scholarship category?

The **Research and Scholarship (R&S) entity category** defines a simple and scalable way to streamline federated research, scholarship, and collaboration access. Identity Providers (IdPs) agree to release basic, pre-defined person directory information to all service providers (SP) in the category.

Institutions who configure their IdP to support R&S realize the following benefits:

- Convenience: faculty and researchers instantly access participating services using campus credentials without administrator involvement
- Collaboration on-demand: when a research project adds a service to the category, collaboration across participating campuses is immediate
- Vetted services: InCommon or a sister federation reviews each service application for adherence to the category definition and requirements
- Save time and resources: once enabled, there is no additional involvement of IT staff to provision new R&S services

InCommon has partnered with its peer research and education federations worldwide to create the [REFEDS Research and Scholarship entity category](#).

[Hundreds of InCommon IdPs and SPs](#) are already a part of the R&S category.

How does Research and Scholarship work?

Research and Scholarship for Service Providers

For an SP, having the R&S entity attribute means "I meet the [qualifying criteria](#) to be part of the R&S category." The InCommon Federation operator reviews SP applications for R&S and assigns the entity attribute to qualified SPs.

Qualified SPs automatically receive the [R&S person attribute bundle](#) from all R&S-supporting IdPs in the federation. This process significantly reduces integration overhead for an SP operator by not having to individually negotiate information release with each institution.

Research and Scholarship for Identity Providers

For an IdP, the R&S entity attribute means "I support R&S." Specifically, the IdP agrees to release basic person information to all qualifying R&S SPs. It does so by making a one-time addition to its default attribute release policy to release R&S attribute bundle to all R&S SPs.

Once configured, an InCommon participating institution declares support for R&S by [clicking a box in the Federation Manager portal](#).

This one-time configuration provides faculty and researchers instant federated single sign-on access to R&S services without further administrator involvement. When future scholarly projects qualify for the R&S category, collaboration across participating campuses becomes immediate and seamless.

Related content

- [Entity Categories](#)
- [InCommon-Only Research and Scholarship category \(deprecated\)](#)
- [REFEDS Research and Scholarship category](#)
- [Service provider - apply for Research and Scholarship category](#)
- [Research and Scholarship FAQ](#)
- [Tagging an entity with Research and Scholarship entity attribute](#)
- [Identity Provider - Declare Research and Scholarship support](#)
- [Identity Provider - Declare Anonymous Access support](#)
- [Identity Provider - Declare Pseudonymous Access support](#)
- [Service Provider - Register for the Personalized Access category](#)

Get help

Can't find what you are looking for?

[help Ask the community](#)

Joining Research and Scholarship category

To join the R&S category, see:

For Identity Provider

[Identity Provider - Support Research and Scholarship](#)

For Service Provider

[Service Provider - Apply for Research and Scholarship category](#)

Further reading

[Tagging an entity with Research and Scholarship entity attribute](#)

[REFEDS Research and Scholarship category specification](#)

[Research and Scholarship FAQ](#)

[Research and Scholarship Deployment Considerations](#)

[Identity provider - support Research and Scholarship](#)

[Service provider - apply for Research and Scholarship category](#)

[InCommon-Only Research and Scholarship category \(deprecated\)](#)