

# Research and Scholarship Category Requirements Change 2014-12-01



## Deprecated

Note that this page has been deprecated. The information it contains is no longer current.

## Change in Requirements to Become a Member of the Research & Scholarship Category

A number of changes were made to the [R&S application form](#) beginning with [v. 21 of that form](#):

1. The human subjects requirement was removed from the R&S definition on Dec 1, 2014
  - An accounting of the [governance process that led to this change](#) is documented elsewhere
2. The InCommon R&S requirements have been aligned with the new [REFEDS R&S specification](#)
  - See the [gap analysis](#) to understand the differences between InCommon R&S and the new REFEDS R&S specification
3. Except for the human subjects requirement, the new R&S requirements (as documented on the new [R&S info page for SPs](#)) are backwards compatible with the previous set of R&S requirements. Thus every R&S SP that submits the new application form will receive two [R&S entity attribute values in metadata](#), one denoting InCommon R&S and another signifying compliance with the REFEDS R&S specification. At this point, the legacy InCommon R&S entity attribute value is for backwards compatibility only, so that IdPs continue to release attributes to the same set of R&S SPs.

### Note to SP Owners

Your SP will experience **no operational changes** as a result of submitting the new [R&S application form](#). When you are ready to interoperate with global R&S IdPs, let us know ([admin@incommon.org](mailto:admin@incommon.org)) and we will make arrangements to export your SP's metadata to eduGAIN. If you decide not to interoperate with global R&S IdPs at this time, that's fine, it's your choice.

### Note to IdP Operators

In the short term, the goal is for all InCommon R&S SPs to have a [multivalued entity attribute](#) in metadata, that is, each SP will satisfy the requirements of *both* InCommon R&S *and* REFEDS R&S (which is possible since the [gap between the two specifications](#) is small). Once all R&S SPs have a multivalued entity attribute in metadata, all InCommon R&S IdPs will be encouraged to migrate their configurations to the REFEDS R&S entity attribute, that is, to release the [R&S attribute bundle](#) to all R&S SPs, globally.