

How Do I Deposit Data into CEBS?

Page Navigation (Quick Links):

- 1) Accepted Data
- 2) Requirements for Submission
- 3) Formatting Data for CEBS
 - a) Downloading the CEBSDataBuilder Application
 - b) Creating a SIFT File
- 4) Depositing Formatted Data
- 5) Opening Deposited Data

Answer: When depositing data into CEBS you must satisfy submission and formatting requirements by using the CEBSDataBuilder Application. Your data can be accepted by CEBS from a wide variety of sources. To search the existing data in CEBS, navigate to the CEBS Homepage (<https://cebs.niehs.nih.gov/cebs/>). There are options to search for studies. Using the workflows below will allow the user to search for various results. To download all individual animal data - navigate to the Download Data button and use the FTP Server (See this document for further instructions).

1) Accepted Data

CEBS accepts data of interest from Environmental Health Scientists. This data can be from any experimental design or technology. Data from individual animals or subjects is preferred. Data should also include an experimental design and any protocol details where applicable.

CEBS accepts data from a wide variety of sources, including:

- National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) Intramural and Extramural Divisions
- Division of the National Toxicology Program (NTP) studies
- Other U.S. Government laboratories
- Academic institutions
- Consortiums
- Pharmaceutical companies

2) Requirements for Submission

In order to submit data to CEBS, you must:

- Read and accept the CEBS [Terms of Use](#)
- Contact the CEBS Scientific Administrator with a completed [CEBS Storage and Access Agreement](#)

Jennifer Fostel, Ph.D.
Tel (919) 541-5055
fostel@niehs.nih.gov

- Provide study annotation metadata to accompany the experimental data
 - The metadata should describe subject types, characteristics, procedures applied to the subjects (such as animal maintenance or culture conditions), and treatment parameters. You can also include information on instruments and software, descriptions of protocols, study conclusions, and a link to the scientific paper based on the data.
 - Providing metadata allows the study data to be used for searches, cross-study comparison and analyses, as well as potentially used by other databases.
 - For a checklist of the types of information useful for study metadata review text:
[Fostel JM, Burgoon L, Zwickl C, Lord P, Corton JC, Bushel PR, et. al. 2007. Toward a checklist for exchange and interpretation of data from a toxicology study. Toxicol Sci. 99\(1\):26-34. PMID: 17442663.](#)
 - After submission, we ask for a complete review of the data with CEBS user interface before it is made public.

3) Formatting Data for CEBS

CEBS uses a special type of file, called Simple Investigation Formatted Text (SIFT) for storing study data. It is an enriched text file format that allows the custom software of the CEBS application to associate synonyms, related terms, and metadata relationships by using the information in the SIFT file and database tables.

A Java program called the CEBSDataBuilder can create a SIFT file incorporating your data and study information. This process requires manual entry of terms and experimental data to be stored in a delimited text or Excel file for one click uploading.

The CEBSDataBuilder can be downloaded to your desktop. Full downloading instructions are below.

Should you have many studies to submit, then the CEBS Team Developers can create programs that will translate your studies into SIFT files. The submitted data files should have a standard format and a well-defined schema.

a) Downloading the CEBSDataBuilder Application

In order to run the .exe file, you need Java version 1.5 or higher* installed on your machine. If you don't have Java runtime environment installed on your machine, go to <http://www.java.com> to download and install it. Most machines already have it installed. (*We know that there is a bug in java 1.6.0.1 – 3).

- 1) Enter the URL into your browser or click <ftp://anonftp.niehs.nih.gov/ntp-cebs/>
- 2) Click the Directory link 'tools'
- 3) Click the Directory link 'SIFT'
- 4) Click the link CEBSDataBuilder.zip
- 5) Click Save (saves the zip file to the Downloads folder) or Save As to save the zip file to your desktop
- 6) Close the FTP window

b) Creating a SIFT File

Run the CEBSDataBuilder executable jar file to create a SIFT. Instructions on how to use the CEBSDataBuilder can be found in the downloaded zip file. The location where the DataBuilder is available for download also contains a file describing the SIFT format. This file also details the different sections within a SIFT.

4) Depositing Formatted Data

Contact the CEBS Team at CEBS-support@mail.nih.gov to deposit your SIFT(s).

Depending on the responses in the CEBS Storage and Access Agreement, deposited data can be housed in CEBS in one of two ways:

- The SIFT you deposit is loaded into the CEBS relational database. Initially, the data deposited to CEBS is private, until we are notified that it is ready to be made public.
- The data you deposit will be loaded into a designated data bin in CEBS Bins and privately into the CEBS relational database. You may list individuals that can be granted access to the data through the CEBS Bin Module. Individuals accessing the CEBS Bin Module must have either NIH login credentials or have been granted an NIHEXT (NIH External User) account.

When the deposited data is ready to be published, contact the CEBS team, and the data will be made public. At that time, the data can be accessed by the public through the CEBS public user interface without a password.

5) Opening Deposited Data

Deposited data that has been made public can be opened from the CEBS user interface at <https://cebs.niehs.nih.gov/cebs/> without a username or password.