Changes to our Terms of Service

Thanks for being part of our network of 14+ million researchers – where we connect the world of science and make research open to all.

We are updating our Terms of Service and would like to give you an early look.

We added some new provisions, and made the new Terms clearer and easy to understand. The changes are effective upon acceptance for new users, and from December 1st, 2017, for existing users.

While we encourage you to read the full Terms of Service, here’s a quick summary of some of what’s new:

1. **Your responsibilities as a ResearchGate member.** We want to make sure that everyone has an enjoyable and constructive experience on ResearchGate. In that spirit, we’ve explained in more detail your responsibilities when you have a ResearchGate account, when you upload your work, and when you interact with other members.

2. **Community Guidelines.** We believe that a community should accommodate many points of view. However, every community needs a few ground rules to make sure everybody has a good experience and that interactions stay constructive. To help with this, we’ve come up with some simple Community Guidelines to show you what behavior we encourage on ResearchGate and what we consider inappropriate.

3. **Changes to ResearchGate and these Terms.** We may change features of ResearchGate to improve your experience, and update our Terms of Service in the future. We’ve included more details on when we can do this, and how we’ll let you know about it.

4. **Resolving issues.** We do everything we can to listen to our members and always strive to resolve any problems quickly and to everybody’s satisfaction. For cases where this may not be possible, we’ve clarified our approach to resolving disputes.

5. **Special provisions for people in the U.S..** For those of you in the United States, we’ve changed the way any formal disputes between us would get resolved from going to a court to binding arbitration. Also included is a waiver of your ability to bring a class action against us, and a release of claims against us for disputes arising between members.

We hope you find these updates helpful. If you don’t agree to the new Terms of Service for any reason and prefer to close your account, you can do so.

Please note that we’ve also updated our Privacy Policy to describe in more detail how we protect your privacy when you use ResearchGate. Please also take a moment to read it.

If you have any questions, please contact us.