

# What are descriptive metadata? Will they be archived together with the research data?

## Short Answer

Yes, GFBio asks for a minimum set of descriptive information (who, what, where, when, how) during data submission to ensure the findability, accessibility, interoperability, and reusability of the archived data ([FAIR data principles](#)).

## Detailed Answer

Metadata should contain basic structured information about your data so that others (humans as well as machines) can understand and use your data without further information. You should always make sure to answer at least the following questions: Who collected the data, what kind of data were collected, where, when, how, and why were they collected?

Our data curators will help and assist you to get your metadata transferred into the respective metadata standard during the submission and archival process.

### See also:

- [FAQ: What are metadata?](#)
- [FAQ: What is FAIR data?](#)
- [FAQ: What is a metadata standard?](#)