

Wisconsin Longitudinal Study

How to Request Non-public Data

The Wisconsin Longitudinal Study is committed to the privacy of its study participants. WLS staff takes great care to maintain their confidentiality.

Public data should be sufficient for most research questions. Public data access requires a brief registration on our web site before downloading the data. This level of data has the unique key identifier "idpub."

Non-public data include variables labeled as Restricted in the WLS portal. These measures, such as geographic identifiers, dates other than year, and measures that group study participants into schools, increase the risk of re-identification of participants. In addition to Restricted variables, some measures in the public data are truncated as described in the "Notes" field in the portal.

To get access to these measures please send:

- a written proposal with your specific research aims and a justification why the publicly available data are not sufficient to answer your research question
- if applicant is a student or postdoc include a letter of support from a faculty sponsor
- a copy of, or a link to, a CV for yourself and if applicable, each researcher with whom you will work including the faculty sponsor
- documentation of IRB approval

to wls@ssc.wisc.edu