VSLO® Technology and Data Policies

Technology and data policies are laid out in the Visiting Student Learning Opportunities™ (VSLO®) Participation Agreement reviewed and signed by all institutions with access to the VSLO platform. It is important your institution is aware of and adheres to these policies and practices when participating in the VSLO program: Some of the key policies and practices are outlined below.

VSLO Data Retention Policy

The VSLO program retains and provides institutional user access to three (3) calendar years of their institution's application data. Institutions are responsible for following their own data retention policies if they need to retain or archive application data beyond the period it is available in the VSLO system.

AAMC Policies Regarding the Collection, Use, and Dissemination of Medical Student and Applicant Data

As an AAMC service, the VSLO program follows established policies designed to:

- Prevent the release of confidential personal data without the consent of the individual.
- Restrict the distribution of sensitive data to only those circumstances where access is required.

Institutions should review the AAMC's privacy policies in full on the AAMC website.

VSLO Data Privacy and Security

Institutions participating in the VSLO program must adhere to requirements regarding the collection, use, retention, and protection of personally identifiable information and applicant data:

Privacy Protections

Any personally identifiable information collected by the AAMC in its performance of the VSLO Participation Agreement is protected by the AAMC Privacy Statement.

Data Security Obligations

Both the AAMC and participating institutions must reasonably secure all personally identifiable information created, received, maintained, or transmitted through the VSLO service.

Use of Applicant Data

Institutions may use application information submitted by or related to an applicant ("applicant data") in the VSLO system solely for the purpose of considering applicants for admission and attendance in a learning opportunity offered through the VSLO program.

Any other use or disclosure of applicant data, including research or publication use, is unauthorized without the express prior written permission of the AAMC.

Legal and Institutional Compliance

Institutions must ensure compliance with all applicable laws and institutional policies related to the receipt, retention, and protection of applicant data.

Access Management

Institutions shall notify the VSLO team immediately of any changes to personnel authorized to access VSLO products, services, and data.

Data Request Policies

Institutions may access their applicant data and opportunity information directly through the VSLO service, subject to the retention period established in the VSLO Data Retention Policy. Requests for use of VSLO data not otherwise authorized by this policy must be submitted using the AAMC data request process. For national-level data related to visiting student trends, institutions should first consult publicly available reports and resources published by the AAMC before submitting a formal request. The AAMC has a data request form, and external requests are reviewed on a case-by-case basis within the context of the stated data and privacy policies.

AAMC Support Center Information

Phone: 202-478-9878
Email: visitingstudents@aamc.org
Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m.- 6 p.m. ET
VSLO Contact Form