

What is "R&S"? Identity Providers

REFEDS is asking all institutions that have an Identity Provider within a Research and Education Identity Federation to support "R&S": the [Research and Scholarship Entity Category](#). Here is why.

	Research and Education Identity Federations are designed to protect the privacy of users – which means only personal information that is strictly necessary is passed to services to help you access services.
	Many services that support research or scholarly collaboration have a proven need for a small set of personal attributes to provide the desired service – an example might be a grant system that needs your name and email address to communicate information about grants.
	REFEDS has identified a small set of attributes that work for a large majority of our research and scholarship services – these are name, email address and a unique identifier for the user.
	A challenge for institutions using Identity Federations is working out which Service Providers have a genuine need for these attributes and configuring an attribute release policy for each service.
	"R&S" addresses this problem for you. The audit of service providers is done by your federation against legal requirements and attribute release is automatically applied to the service - decreasing the overhead for Identity Providers and barriers to access for your users.



To find out more about how to implement R&S for your Identity Provider please visit the [REFEDs website](#).