

Data Submission & Authorization Agreement

This Institution Data Submission Agreement (“Agreement”) governs the submission of institutional data by higher education institutions participating in data collection processes organized by ShanghaiRanking Consultancy (“ShanghaiRanking”).

By accessing the designated platform and submitting data, the individual acting on behalf of the participating institution (“Institution”) represents that they are duly authorized to bind the Institution to the terms of this Agreement.

I. Service Description

ShanghaiRanking conducts a number of global and regional higher education evaluation and ranking projects.

Institutions may submit institutional data through the designated platform for the purpose of participating in evaluations or rankings published by ShanghaiRanking.

ShanghaiRanking may analyze the submitted data together with other publicly available information to produce rankings, analytical reports, data products, and other related materials.

II. Institutional Data Submission

Data submitted by institutions through this platform may include, but is not limited to:

- General institutional information;
- Institutional contact information;
- Academic staff-related data;
- Student-related data;
- Income-related data;
- Other information relevant to ranking indicators.

ShanghaiRanking reserves the right to define and modify the categories and formats of required data based on ranking methodologies and research needs.

By submitting data, the Institution represents and warrants that:

- The submitted data are true, accurate, and complete to the best of its knowledge;
- The submission of such data has been duly authorized within the Institution;
- The Institution has the legal right and authority to provide the data and grant the permissions set forth in this Agreement;

- The submission of the data does not violate any applicable laws, regulations, or third-party rights.

The Institution shall be solely responsible for the accuracy and integrity of the submitted data.

ShanghaiRanking reserves the right to:

- Review and verify submitted data;
- Request clarification or supporting documentation;
- Exclude the data from the rankings where inconsistencies are identified.

If ShanghaiRanking identifies material discrepancies or anomalies in the submitted data, it will notify the Institution and grant the Institution a subsequent opportunity to clarify or rectify the data.

If the discrepancy remains unresolved, ShanghaiRanking reserves the right to:

- Use substitute or estimated values for the purposes of calculating the rankings;
- Disqualify the Institution from participation in the rankings;
- Publicly clarify the matter where necessary.

The Institution bears an affirmative duty to immediately notify ShanghaiRanking in writing if it discovers, post-submission, that any provided data is materially inaccurate, incomplete, or otherwise fails to comply with the warranties set forth in this Agreement.

III. Data Ownership

The Institution retains ownership of the raw data submitted through the platform.

By submitting data, the Institution grants ShanghaiRanking a worldwide, non-exclusive, royalty-free, perpetual, irrevocable, and sub-licensable license to collect, store, process, analyze, use, reproduce, publish, distribute, and create derivative works from the submitted data for research and commercial purposes (including benchmarking tools and data insights), in any form, media, or technology now known or later developed. To the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, the Institution hereby unconditionally waives any and all moral rights it may have in the submitted data. ShanghaiRanking warrants that any raw data utilized in its commercial data products shall be presented within the context of professional analytical platforms, benchmarking tools, or research reports.

All intellectual property rights relating to ranking methodologies, analytical models, ranking tables, indicators, and related publications remain the exclusive property of ShanghaiRanking.

IV. Public Disclosure Requirement

To ensure the authenticity of the submitted data and prevent unauthorized submissions, the Institution is required to make the submitted data accessible on a webpage hosted under its official institutional domain.

Only after the Institution has publicly released the submitted data may the relevant data be used by ShanghaiRanking for the purposes of international ranking calculations, analysis, or related research.

The Institution acknowledges and agrees that ShanghaiRanking may publish ranking results, statistical analysis, or research outputs based on the data that have been publicly disclosed by the Institution and the indicators derived therefrom.

The Institution shall be responsible for the accuracy and integrity of the data it publicly discloses.

V. Historical Data Usage

ShanghaiRanking may retain submitted data for historical records, longitudinal analysis, and research purposes.

The Institution acknowledges that previously submitted data may continue to be used for historical comparisons, methodological research, and previously published rankings.

The license granted under this Agreement shall remain valid even if the Institution ceases participation in future data submissions.

VI. Data Protection and International Compliance

For the strictly limited purposes of account creation, identity verification, anti-fraud measures, and

necessary administrative communication, ShanghaiRanking requires the designated representative to provide Business Contact Information (such as name, official institutional email address, and job title) ("Submitter Data"). ShanghaiRanking warrants that Submitter Data will be kept strictly confidential, will NOT be displayed together with Institution's submitted data, and will NOT be used for external commercial purposes.

Aside from Submitter Data, the Institution agrees not to upload any other personally identifiable information (PII) of its students, alumni, or staff into the platform.

VII. Methodology Disclaimer

ShanghaiRanking develops and maintains its own ranking methodologies, indicators, and analytical frameworks.

Such methodologies may be updated or refined from time to time.

ShanghaiRanking retains sole discretion regarding:

- Ranking methodologies;
- Indicator definitions and weights;
- Data normalization and adjustments;
- Final ranking outcomes.

Participation in the data submission process does not guarantee inclusion in any ranking or any specific ranking position.

VIII. Governing Law

This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the People's Republic of China for Institutions located in mainland China.

For Institutions located outside mainland China, this Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the Hong Kong SAR.

Any disputes arising out of or in connection with this Agreement shall be resolved as follows:

- For Institutions located in mainland China, such disputes shall be submitted to the competent courts of Shanghai, China.
- For Institutions located outside mainland China, such disputes shall be finally resolved by arbitration administered by the Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC) in Hong Kong in accordance with its then-effective arbitration rules. The arbitral award shall be final and binding upon both parties.

Statutory Exemption for Public Entities: Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the Institution is a public or state-affiliated entity that is strictly prohibited by its mandatory local/state laws from agreeing to a foreign governing law or foreign arbitration, this Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the jurisdiction where the Institution is legally established, and disputes shall be submitted to a competent court within that territory.

IX. Miscellaneous

This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties regarding its subject matter.

If any provision of this Agreement is held to be invalid or unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

ShanghaiRanking reserves the right to amend this Agreement from time to time by providing

reasonable notice (e.g., via email or platform announcement). Continued participation in data submission after such notice constitutes acceptance of the amendments.