University of Maryland
Health Sciences and
Human Services Library

HSHSL Website Privacy Policy
Refer Questions to: Library Administration, Ext. 6-7545
Revised Date: Novemmber 2023
Approved By: Division Heads

The Health Sciences and Human Services Library (HSHSL), University of Maryland is committed to preserving the privacy of its users. HSHSL does not collect personal information about users visiting its website unless the user chooses to provide that information.

Information Collected and Stored Automatically

The HSHSL website does automatically store information such as the IP address from which a user accesses the website, the Internet address of the website from which the user linked to the HSHSL site and the browser used to access the site. This information is used in aggregate to help HSHSL determine which pages are visited, how long visitors stay on a page, etc. This information helps to plan for enhancements, identify the most popular parts of the site and generally maintain the site.

Anonymous Information Collected Automatically

The HSHSL website uses Google Analytics to collect information about use of the site. When a user browses the website, reads pages, or downloads information, certain information about the user visit is automatically gathered and stored. This information, which does not identify the user personally, includes the following:

The domain and IP address from which the user accessed the HSHSL website
The type of browser and operating system used to access the HSHSL website
The date and time the user accessed the HSHSL website
The pages visited and the amount of time spent on each page
Demographic and Interests based on advertiser data is also collected. This information is derived from the third-party DoubleClick cookie and device identifiers. A user can prevent this information from being collected by disabling cookies.

Information from Google Analytics helps HSHSL make improvements to the HSHSL website. A user can opt out of Google Analytics tracking by installing the Google Analytics Opt-out Browser Add-on. https://tools.google.com/dlpage/gaoptout/

Cookies

While visiting the HSHSL site, users may occasionally encounter a web page that employs cookies to make it easier to use the dynamic features of these web pages. Users can set their browser to disable cookies or prompt before a cookie is accepted. If a user does not want to receive cookies, they will still be able to use the site, but will be unable to use cookie-dependent features.

Personally Provided Information

If the user chooses to provide HSHSL with personal information by sending an email, or by filling out a form and submitting it through the website, HSHSL will use that information to respond to the user's message and to provide the user with requested information or material. HSHSL does not give, share, sell, or transfer any personal information to a third party.

Surveys and Contests

From time-to-time, the HSHSL website requests information via surveys or contests. Participation in these surveys or contests is completely voluntary and users may choose whether or not to participate and therefore disclose this information. Information requested may include contact information (such as name and address), and demographic information (such as zip code). Contact information will be used to notify the winners and award prizes when applicable. Survey information will be used for purposes of monitoring or improving the use and satisfaction of the HSHSL website.

Links to Other Sites

Some of the HSHSL web pages provide links to other Internet sites that provide health information. Once the user links to another site, the user is subject to the privacy policy of the new site.