



FAQ – Update on Data Access Fees

Starting January 2026, CARTaGENE will implement a new pricing model for data access renewals. This Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document addresses the most common questions on this topic.

When does the new pricing model take effect?

The new CARTaGENE data access fee model will take effect starting January 2026.

When are data access fees billed?

Fees are billed:

- At the beginning of the project, after signing the initial contract.
- When requesting additional data.
- At contract renewals.

What is the maximum duration of a data access contract?

The maximum duration is 5 years. You can extend your project by submitting an amendment through the [SDAS Access Portal](#).

Can I renew my data access contract multiple times?

Yes. Renewals are possible, each for a maximum duration of 5 years.

What changes with the new model?

For each additional year added during a renewal, fees equivalent to 20% of the total initial data access fees will be charged.

Example for an initial request including the following datasets:

Data	Fees
Recruitment (2009)	\$3,000
Physical measures (2009)	\$1,000
Hematological and biochemical data (2009)	\$1,000
Total data access fees	\$5,000

Initial fees (\$5,000) cover the initial contract period. If the person wishes to renew access for two additional years, the renewal fee calculation is:

$$\$5,000 \times 20\% \times 2 \text{ years} = \$2,000$$

+\$500 administrative fee

Total renewal amount: \$2,500

Do these changes apply to ongoing projects?

Yes. For ongoing projects, the new pricing model will apply at the time of contract renewal.

What about reduced fees for early-career researchers?

- If the person is still considered an early-career researcher at renewal, the 20% calculation is based on the reduced amount.
- If the person no longer qualifies, the calculation is based on the regular amount.

Example:

Data	Fees
Recruitment (2009)	\$3,000
Physical measures (2009)	\$1,000
Hematological and biochemical data (2009)	\$1,000
Total data access fees	\$5,000
Early-career discount (50%)	\$2,500

Initial fees (\$2,500) for early-career researchers cover the initial contract period. If the person wishes to renew access for two additional years and remains an early-career researcher, the total renewal amount is:

$(\$2,500 \times 20\% \times 2 \text{ years}) + \$500 \text{ administrative fee} = \$1,500.$

If the person is no longer considered an early-career researcher at renewal, the calculation is based on the regular amount of \$5,000:

$(\$5,000 \times 20\% \times 2 \text{ years}) + \$500 \text{ administrative fee} = \$2,500.$

Does the update affect sample access fees?

No, the initial data access fees, administrative fees, and sample-related fees remain unchanged.

What are data access fees used for?

Fees help cover:

- Maintenance and development of technical infrastructures;
- Administrative and scientific support for researchers;
- Data preparation and validation.

These fees support the sustainability and quality of the services offered to platform users.

Who can I contact for more information?

For any questions regarding billing, contract duration, or the cost model:

- Email access@cartagene.qc.ca
- Visit the Data Access Fees section on the [Portal](#).