

Processing of personal data for scientific research is regulated by section 16 of the Personal Data Protection Act. **Permission for conducting scientific research** must be requested from the Data Protection Inspectorate if in the process of the scientific research data that are not non-personalised are used without the content of the person. If in the process of scientific research also sensitive personal data are processed, processing of sensitive personal data must be registered with the inspection separately.

No permission by the inspection is required if personal data are processed in scientific research **with the consent of the person**. Even so, with scientific research carried out on the basis of a consent, in the process of which sensitive personal data are processed, processing of sensitive data must be registered with the inspection.

If scientific research is carried out **with non-personalised data** (i.e., a person is marked with a feature which does not allow identification of the person), the data are not deemed to be personal data for the purposes of the law and, therefore, use of such data does not require consent of the person, permission of the inspection or registration of processing of sensitive personal data. For the implementation of this provision, personal data must be coded before these are handed over to the person carrying out the scientific research.

Permission for scientific research can be requested by submitting an application in Estonian to the inspection (together with enclosed annexes). An [application](#) for registering processing of sensitive personal data can be submitted together with a request for permission to carry out scientific research.