

Overview

The CHOP project template is a directory structure used to organize the collection and use of research data and all the relevant files and information that accompany such an effort. The template is originally based off a similar effort to organize genomic data, but has been expanded in scope and structure to work with all types of clinical and biomedical research.

Purpose

The CHOP project template provides structure and context to project files and documents. It provides a shared, documented framework for organizing a research effort. This achieves multiple goals: it assists research teams in building transparency and reproducible workflows, it establishes a structure that allows for easier long-term preservation, and it provides context to assist in future reuse of research either for collaborators or for the original researcher themselves.

Structure

The project template structure outlines a number of directories that are intended to capture three major aspects of a research effort: the data (*data*), the tools needed to work with that data (*access tools*), and the contextual information needed to understand the effort and its constituent parts (*contextual*). The high level directories are as follows (items with asterisk are required):

- **Configs** (*contextual*)
- **Data** (*data*)*
- **Manifests** (*data*)* if you are working in an Arcus Lab, Arcus creates all manifests for you
- **Models** (*access tools*)
- **References** (*contextual*)
- **Reports** (*contextual*)
- **Requirements** (*contextual*)
- **SRC** (*access tools*)*

Explanation of the purpose of each directory, applicable subdirectories, and how they should be used can be found in the links listed under “Further Resources”. Not all directories will be relevant for all research efforts; teams should use the pieces that are applicable to their work.

Further Resources

- [Directory Structure graphic with directory explanations](#)
- [Slide deck more generally explaining project template and individual directory](#)
- [Github Repo with example project template structure](#)