SCS Privacy Policy

Simulation Councils, Inc. dba The Society for Modeling and Simulation International (SCS)

Last updated: October 20, 2026

This Privacy Policy explains what personal information SCS collects when you use our website at scs.org and our online services, how we use and share it, and the choices you have. By using our website, you agree to the practices described here. If you do not agree, please do not use the website.

1. Who we are

SCS is a California nonprofit 501(c)(3) professional society for the modeling and simulation community. Our address is 11315 Rancho Bernardo Road, Suite 139, San Diego, CA 92127, USA. In this policy, "SCS," "we," "us," and "our" mean Simulation Councils, Inc. dba The Society for Modeling and Simulation International. "You" means anyone who visits our website, joins SCS, registers for or submits to one of our conferences, subscribes to our communications, or otherwise contacts us.

This policy covers scs.org. Our membership, registration, and donation pages are run on a platform provided by Member365 (scs.member365.org). Information you enter there is managed as described in this policy and under Member365's own privacy policy.

2. Information we collect

Information you give us.

We collect the information you provide when you create an account, join or renew, register for a conference or training, submit a paper or abstract, volunteer, donate, subscribe to our email, or contact us. This may include:

- Your name, email address, phone number, and mailing address.
- Your organization or institution, job title, and membership type.
- Conference registration details, paper or abstract submissions, and author biographies.
- Donation and purchase records. Payment card numbers are collected by our payment processors, not stored by SCS.
- Anything you send us in an email, form, or message.

We do not intentionally collect sensitive information such as government identification numbers, health information, or biometric data. Please do not send it to us.

Information collected automatically

When you visit our website, we and our service providers automatically collect usage data, such as your IP address, browser type and version, device type, the pages you view, the date and time of your visit, how long you stay, and the website you came from. When you use a mobile device, we may also collect the device type, operating system, and a device identifier.

Information from others

If your employer or institution pays for or arranges a corporate or academic membership, they may give us your name and contact information. If you register with a conference partner or co-sponsor, they may share your registration details with us.

3. How we use your information

- To provide and manage the website, your account, and your membership.
- To process registrations, submissions, purchases, renewals, and donations, and to send receipts and confirmations.
- To organize conferences, training, and publications, including publishing the names and affiliations of authors.
- To contact you about your membership, events, deadlines, and SCS news, and to answer your requests.
- Sending announcements about SCS activities. You can opt out at any time (see Section 7).
- To understand how the website is used and to improve it.
- To keep the website secure, prevent fraud, and meet legal and accounting obligations.

4. How we share your information

We do not sell your personal information for money. We share it only in these situations:

- Service providers. We use companies that help us run SCS, such as website hosting, membership management (Member365), email delivery, Conference Paper Submittal system, payment processing, and website analytics. They may use your information only to perform services for us.
- For conferences held together with a partner or co-sponsor, we may share registration information that the partner needs to run the event such as WSC and with conference exhibitor.
- Publications and public areas. Names and affiliations of authors appear in published proceedings and programs. Anything you post in a public area may be seen by others.
- Legal reasons. We may disclose information when required by law, to respond to valid requests from public authorities, or to protect the rights, property, or safety of SCS, our members, or others.
- Organizational changes. If SCS merges with, transfers assets to, or is reorganized with another organization, your information may be transferred. We will tell you before it becomes subject to a different privacy policy.
- With your consent, or at your direction.

5. Cookies and similar technologies

Cookies are small files placed on your device by a website. We and our service providers use cookies, tags, and similar technologies to keep you signed in, remember your preferences, remember that you have seen our cookie notice, and measure how the website is used. The types we use are:

- Necessary cookies. Needed for the website and your account to work, including sign-in and security.
- Preference cookies. Remember choices such as your login details or language.
- Analytics and performance cookies. Set up by third parties to show us how visitors use the website, so we can improve it.

You can set your browser to refuse cookies or to tell you when one is being set. If you refuse them, some parts of the website may not work. Our website does not respond to “Do Not Track” signals. You can learn how to manage cookies at your browser’s help pages.

6. Third-party services we use

The companies below help us operate. Each handles information under its own privacy policy.

- Member365 (membership, registration, and donation platform): member365.com.
- Mailchimp (email newsletters): mailchimp.com/legal/privacy.
- Stripe (payment processing): stripe.com/us/privacy and paypal.com/privacy.
- Sage publications for member journal access.
- Microsoft 365 (our email and documents).

We do not store your full payment card details. They go directly to our payment processors, which follow the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI-DSS).

7. Your choices

- Email. Use the unsubscribe link in any SCS email or write to scs@scs.org. We may still send you messages about your account, such as receipts and renewal notices.
- Access and correction. You can view and update your information by signing up to your account, or by contacting us.
- Deletion. You can ask us to delete your personal information. We may keep some information when we have a legal or business reason, for example financial records, or records of past conference proceedings.
- Cookies. See Section 5.

8. How long we keep your information

We keep personal information for as long as you are a member or have an account, and then for as long as needed to meet our legal, tax, and accounting duties, resolve disputes, and keep records of SCS history, such as conference proceedings. Usage data is kept for a shorter time.

9. Security

We use reasonable measures to protect your information, including secure connections and limiting who can see it. No website or electronic storage is completely secure, so we cannot guarantee absolute security. Please choose a strong password and keep it private.

10. International use

SCS is based in the United States, and our members and conference participants come from many countries. Your information is processed in the United States and in other places where our service providers operate. These places may have data protection laws different from those where you live. By giving us your information, you agree to this transfer. We take reasonable steps to protect your information wherever it is processed.

11. If you are in the European Economic Area or United Kingdom

SCS is the controller of your personal information. We process it on these legal grounds: your consent; to conduct our agreement with you, such as your membership or registration; our legitimate interests in running and improving SCS; and to meet legal obligations.

You have the right to: request access to your information; ask us to correct it; ask us to delete it; object to or ask us to limit our use of it; receive a copy in a common electronic format; and withdraw your consent at any time. To use these rights, contact us at the address in Section 17. We may need to confirm your identity first. You also have the right to complain to your local data protection authority.

12. If you are a California resident

California residents have rights under the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA), as amended, to the extent it applies to SCS.

- What we collect. In the last 12 months, we may have collected identifiers (name, address, email, IP address), customer records information, commercial information (membership and purchase history), and internet activity (how you use the website). We have not collected sensitive personal information.
- Where it comes from and why. It comes from you, from your device, and from our service providers. We use it for the purposes in Section 3.
- Sale and sharing. We do not sell your personal information and do not share it for cross-context behavioral advertising.
- Your rights. You may ask what personal information we collect, use, and disclose; ask us to delete it; ask us to correct it; and opt out of any sale or sharing. We will not treat you differently for using these rights.
- How to ask. Email scs@scs.org or call (858) 277-3888. We will confirm your identity, and we will respond within 45 days. We may extend this once by another 45 days and will tell you if we do. You may also use an authorized agent to make a request.

Shine the Light. California residents who have a business relationship with us may ask once a year for information about our sharing of personal information with third parties for their direct marketing. We do not share it for that purpose.

Minors. A California resident under eighteen who is a registered user may ask us to remove content they posted publicly. Contact us using the details in Section 17. The law may not require removal in every case.

13. Children

Our website is not directed at children under thirteen, and we do not knowingly collect personal information from them. If you believe a child has given us personal information, contact us and we will delete it.

14. Links to other websites

Our website links to other websites, such as conference partners, sponsors, and publishers, that we do not control. We are not responsible for their content or privacy practices. Please read the privacy policy of each site you visit.

15. Changes to this policy

We may update this policy from time to time. When we do, we will post the latest version on this page and change the “Last updated” date at the top. If a change is significant, we will also notify you by email or with a notice on our website before it takes effect. Please review this page from time to time.

16. Accessibility and other versions

If you have trouble reading this policy and would like it in another format, contact us.

17. Contact us

If you have questions about this policy, or want to use any of your rights, contact:

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