

**NAME**

ares\_free\_data – Free data allocated by several c-ares functions

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <ares.h>
```

```
void ares_free_data(void *dataptr)
```

```
cc file.c -lc-ares
```

**DESCRIPTION**

The **ares\_free\_data(3)** function frees one or more data structures allocated and returned by several c-ares functions. Specifically the data returned by the following list of functions must be deallocated using this function.

**ares\_get\_servers(3)**

When used to free the data returned by **ares\_get\_servers(3)** this will free the whole linked list of **ares\_addr\_node** structures returned by **ares\_get\_servers(3)**.

**ares\_parse\_srv\_reply(3)**

When used to free the data returned by **ares\_parse\_srv\_reply(3)** this will free the whole linked list of **ares\_srv\_reply** structures returned by **ares\_parse\_srv\_reply(3)**, along with any additional storage associated with those structures.

**ares\_parse\_txt\_reply(3)**

When used to free the data returned by **ares\_parse\_txt\_reply(3)** this will free the whole linked list of **ares\_txt\_reply** structures returned by **ares\_parse\_txt\_reply(3)**, along with any additional storage associated with those structures.

**RETURN VALUE**

The **ares\_free\_data()** function does not return a value.

**AVAILABILITY**

This function was first introduced in c-ares version 1.7.0.

**SEE ALSO**

**ares\_get\_servers(3)**, **ares\_parse\_srv\_reply(3)**, **ares\_parse\_txt\_reply(3)**

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