All of Us Researcher Academy

Institutional Champion Awards

Call for Applications

Submission due date: July 22, 2022

Background

The National Institutes of Health All of Us Research Program is part of an effort to advance precision medicine by enrolling one million or more participants to contribute their health data over many years. Data collected from participants will be made available to researchers across the United States to drive innovation in precision medicine and forge an understanding of how the interactions between genes, environment, and behaviors produce health and illness. The program aims to reflect the diversity of the United States and to include participants from groups that have historically not been invited to participate in biomedical research. To date, All of Us has enrolled more than 330,000 participants who have completed initial steps of the program, with approximately 50% from racial or ethnic minority populations as defined by the U.S. Census and approximately 80% from individuals not represented in biomedical research. Data collected includes biosamples, physical measurements, wearable data, lifestyle questions, electronic health records, and social determinants of health.

The All of Us Research Hub includes the Researcher Workbench, which houses participant data along with tools and personalized support resources such as an integrated help desk, regular office hours, sample datasets, and more. This centralized, secure, cloud-based platform contains the data described above. Researcher Workbench access is available to researchers whose institutions have Data Use and Registration Agreements (DURAs) in place with the program. To learn more about data access and use, visit https://www.researchallofus.org/data-tools/data-access/.

The currently available participant data on the Researcher Workbench include:

- Physical measures including blood pressure, heart rate, body mass index (BMI), and more from over 267,000 participants.
- Survey responses from over 329,000 participants that include lifestyle, access to care, and medical history. There are also survey data from nearly 100,000 participants on their experiences with COVID-19 during the pandemic (see https://www.researchallofus.org/data-tools/survey-explorer/).
- Electronic Health Records (EHRs) from 214,000+ participants which have been standardized to the Observational Medical Outcomes Partnership (OMOP) Common Data Model.
- Wearable data from 11,600+ participants with Fitbit data including physical activity and heart rate.
- Genomic data available through the “Controlled Tier,” with large sample sizes that are appropriate for precision medicine research. The Controlled Tier dataset includes:
  - Nearly 100,000 whole genome sequences and more than 165,000 genotyping arrays.
- More granular survey data, including on self-reported race and ethnicity, Tribal affiliation, education, sex assigned at birth, gender identity, and more.
- More detailed EHR data, including additional International Classification of Diseases (ICD) codes, event dates, and previously generalized or suppressed demographic information.
- All COVID-19 data in EHRs except for data pertaining to vaccines.
- (Slated for 2022 release) Social Determinants of Health survey data with the following domains: neighborhood safety, built environment walkability, social support, loneliness, everyday life discrimination, health care discrimination, food security, housing security, perceived stress, daily spiritual experiences, religious service attendance, and English proficiency.

**Purpose**

To encourage new scientific inquiry and diversify the array of researchers who engage with the *All of Us* Researcher Workbench as a part of their work, the *All of Us* Research Program is seeking institutional applicants for a set of financial awards. In conjunction with RTI International (RTI) and Community-Campus Partnerships for Health (CCPH), the *All of Us* Research Program has established and will continue to develop the *All of Us* Researcher Academy. The Academy is a comprehensive program that will provide training and technical assistance as well as invite and curate contributions from participants to facilitate peer-to-peer learning and network-building among researchers at Minority Serving Institutions. The first phase of the Academy’s work is focused on collaboration with Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

**Award Description**

Each *All of Us* Researcher Academy Champion institution will receive up to $75,000 to support faculty, post-doctoral fellows, and student participation in *All of Us* Researcher Academy activities for a year. Institutional selection will not preclude future awards for similar activities in future years.

**Eligibility Criteria**

To be eligible for an *All of Us* Researcher Academy Champion Award, institutions must be an HBCU and also must either have signed a Data Use and Registration Agreement (DURA) or request initiation of the DURA process with the *All of Us* Data and Research Center within 30 days of the institutional award. If an institution does not already have a DURA, RTI will work closely with the awarded institution to help them establish a DURA. Funding will be contingent on institutional DURA status. Institutions that are not a designated HBCU are not eligible for awards at this time.

**Award Requirements**

Each selected institution must commit to internally distributing the awarded funds through a combination of multiple faculty salary supports of up to $15,000 per faculty member, postdoctoral stipends of $10,000 each, and/or student stipends of $5,000 each, with a maximum combined total of up to $75,000. The funding will be for up to 12 months (with individual stipends to be paid by July 28,
2023) and awarded as a purchase order agreement from RTI International to the institution in question.

In addition to the eligibility and award requirements noted above, award requirements are as follows:

- If an institution does not currently have a DURA, it must request initiation of the DURA process with the *All of Us* Data and Research Center within 30 days of the institutional award.

- The institution must assign a lead administrator for the award who is a full-time employee of the institution to be awarded and who will be the primary contact for working with RTI and NIH to establish a DURA (if not already in place), setting up the purchase order agreement for receiving the funding, providing brief written monthly progress reports, and participating in quarterly check-in meetings with RTI.

- All individual support recipients (faculty, postdocs, and students) must register for the *All of Us* Researcher Workbench within 30 days of being selected as a participant by the champion institution (or within 30 days of the Champion institution establishing a DURA).

- All faculty, postdoctoral fellow, and student stipend recipients must attend at least 4 different online workshop or course offerings through the *All of Us* Researcher Academy (selected from a larger set of offerings that will be available online tuition-free to participants at various points starting in 2022). Faculty participants may qualify to waive this requirement if they agree to serve as a mentor for 2 or more other program participants and to submit a 500-word summary of the mentoring experience.

- Institutions may propose to include visiting scholars or interns from other HBCUs in their plan for awarding individual support.

- All individual awardees (faculty, postdoctoral fellows, students) must submit to the *All of Us* Research Program a brief professional biography and a 250-word summary of an analysis conducted using *All of Us* data that has been submitted for conference presentation or journal consideration by July 28, 2023.

- All participants who conduct research using the Researcher Workbench prior to July 2023 must submit an abstract for consideration to be included in a future *All of Us* Researchers Convention.

- All awarded institutions will commit to quarterly reporting on use of funds through July 28, 2023, and to respond to an evaluation questionnaire from RTI International regarding the Academy.

**Application Procedures**

To be considered for the *All of Us* Researcher Academy Champion Program, please complete this electronic form by noon EST on July 22, 2022, identifying a lead administrator for the Champion award at your institution and briefly describing past and potential institutional connection to *All of Us*. 

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Applications can be submitted any time prior to the due date and will be considered on a rolling basis upon submission.

Submission does not guarantee acceptance. Submissions will be judged on the following criteria:

- Compliance with requirements outlined above
- Thoroughness of plan for use and administration of funds
- Indication of institutional experience with the NIH All of Us Research Program.

Inquiries

For questions, please contact AllofUs_Academy@rti.org.