

All of Us Researcher Academy Institutional Champion Awards Call for Applications

Submission due date: January 5, 2024

Overview

To encourage new scientific inquiry and encourage a diverse set of researchers, including those from groups that have been underrepresented in the biomedical workforce, to engage with the [All of Us Researcher Workbench](#), the [All of Us Research Program](#) is seeking institutional applicants for a set of financial awards. In collaboration with RTI International (RTI) and Community-Campus Partnerships for Health (CCPH), the Division of Engagement and Outreach of the *All of Us* Research Program has established and will continue to develop the [All of Us Researcher Academy](#).

Background

The National Institutes of Health's *All of Us* Research Program is a historic effort to collect and make available to researchers data from at least one million people living in the United States. The program seeks for its participant population to reflect the diversity of the U.S. population and to include individuals from groups that have been underrepresented in health research in the past. The goal of *All of Us* is to accelerate health research discoveries that enable individualized health care.

To do this, *All of Us* is building one of the world's largest and most diverse databases for health research.

The *All of Us* Researcher Workbench is a cloud-based platform that houses participant data and tools and support resources, such as an integrated help desk, regular office hours, sample datasets, and more. This centralized, secure platform currently contains the following:

- **Physical measurements**, including blood pressure, heart rate, body mass index, and more from over 337,500 participants.
- **Survey responses** from over 413,450 participants that include lifestyle, access to care, medical history, and COVID-19 experiences; and survey data from more than 117,750 initial responses to the program's new social determinants of health survey with questions about neighborhood safety, food and housing security, and experiences with discrimination and stress.
- **Electronic health records** from more than 381,000 participants that have been standardized to the Observational Medical Outcomes Partnership Common Data Model.
- **Wearable data** from more than 15,600 participants with Fitbit devices, including physical activity and heart rate.
- **Genomic data** with large sample sizes that are appropriate for precision medicine research (more than 245,350 whole genome sequences and more than 312,900 genotyping arrays).

The numbers above reflect data collected through July 19, 2023.

Access to the Researcher Workbench is available to researchers whose institutions have [Data Use and Registration Agreements](#) (DURAs) in place with *All of Us*. To learn more about data access and use, please visit the [All of Us Research Hub](#).

Purpose

The *All of Us* Researcher Academy is a comprehensive program that provides training and technical assistance for researchers conducting research with the Researcher Workbench, the cloud-based

analytics platform where registered researchers can access participant data. The academy also supports peer-to-peer learning and network-building among researchers and students.

The academy is dedicated to providing support to institutions that have a documented historical mission or historical commitment to educating underrepresented students. The *All of Us* Research Program recognizes the important role these institutions have played in supporting scientific research, particularly on diseases or conditions that disproportionately impact racial and ethnic minorities and other U.S. populations that experience health disparities. Although these institutions are uniquely positioned to engage underrepresented populations in research and in the translation of research advances into culturally competent, measurable, and sustained improvements in health outcomes, they often lack sufficient capacity to conduct and sustain cutting-edge health-related research.

The All of Us Researcher Academy supports researchers in the use of *All of Us* data to explore questions about health and wellbeing. Currently, *All of Us* Researcher Academy resources are free for students, faculty, and post-docs at Historically Black Colleges and Universities [i.e., institutions described in section 4(b) of Executive Order 14041, incorporating by reference the institutions listed in 34 C.F.R. 608.2] and at other institutions with a documented historical mission or historical commitment to training students from underrepresented groups. See the [Notice of NIH's Interest in Diversity](#) for examples of groups that have been shown to be underrepresented in the biomedical research workforce.

To date, the Researcher Academy has funded two HBCU Institutional Champion cohorts. The *All of Us* Researcher Academy is currently seeking applications to fund additional Institutional Champion cohorts. Each Researcher Academy Institutional Champion will receive up to \$75,000 in total costs to support faculty, post-doctoral fellow, and student participation in Researcher Academy activities for 12 months.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible, institutions must submit a written description submission of their historical mission or historical commitment to training students from underrepresented groups, such as those from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups, and must either have an active [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. Funding will be contingent on institutional DURA status.

Award Requirements

Each selected institution must commit to internally distributing the awarded funds through a combination of faculty salary support, postdoctoral stipends, and/or graduate or undergraduate student stipends. 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 in total costs. The total award, including both direct costs such as salary or stipend support and any institutional indirect costs, must not exceed \$75,000.

The funding will be for up to 12 months and awarded as a subcontract from RTI International to the institution (with individual stipends to be paid after the subcontract is in place).

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

1. 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.
2. 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 subcontract for receiving the funding, providing brief electronic monthly progress reports, and participating in quarterly Faculty Scholar convenings with RTI and other awardees.

3. All individual support recipients (faculty, postdoctoral fellows, and students) must [register](#) for the Researcher Workbench within 30 days of being selected as an Institutional Champion (or within 30 days of establishing a DURA).
4. All faculty, postdoctoral fellow, and student stipend recipients must attend at least four different online workshops or course offerings through the Researcher Academy (selected from a set of tuition-free offerings that are available online). Participants may qualify to waive this requirement if they agree to serve as a mentor for two or more other program participants and submit a 500-word summary of the mentoring experience. This waiver must be discussed with and approved by RTI as part of the subcontracting process.
5. If scholars or interns from other campuses are included in the award they must also be compensated as part of the total costs of the award.
6. All individual awardees (faculty, postdoctoral fellows, students) must submit to the Researcher Academy 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 within 12 months of award.
7. All participants must submit an abstract for consideration to be included in a future *All of Us*
8. Researchers Convention within 12 months of award.
9. All institutions that receive an award must commit to quarterly reporting on use of funds and respond to an evaluation questionnaire from RTI regarding the Researcher Academy.

Application Procedures

To be considered for an *All of Us* Researcher Academy Institutional Champion Award, **please complete this electronic [form](#) by 12:00 pm EST on January 5, 2024**, identifying a lead administrator for the award at your institution and briefly describing past and potential institutional connection to *All of Us*.

Submission does not guarantee acceptance. Submissions will be judged on compliance with the requirements outlined above and the thoroughness of a plan for use and administration of funds. Institutional selection will not preclude future awards for similar activities in future years.

Inquiries

For questions, please contact AllofUs_Academy@rti.org.

All of Us Researcher Academy Partners



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