

All of Us Researcher Academy Institutional Champion Awards Call for Applications

Submission due date: September 24, 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, 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 speed up health research discoveries, enabling new kinds of individualized health care. To make this possible, the program is building one of the world's largest and most diverse databases for health research. *All of Us* aims to include a million or more people living in the United States and its territories. The program seeks for its participant cohort 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 *All of Us* Research Program is dedicated to providing support to institutions that have a documented historical mission or historical commitment to training underrepresented students. The 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 Workbench is a secure, cloud-based platform that houses *All of Us* data as well as 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 in the Controlled Tier:

- **Physical measurements**, including blood pressure, heart rate, body mass index, and more from 337,500+ participants.
- **Survey responses** from 413,350+ participants that include lifestyle, access to care, medical history, and COVID-19 experiences; and survey data from 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 287,000+ participants that have been standardized to the Observational Medical Outcomes Partnership Common Data Model.
- **Wearable data** from 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 (245,350+ whole genome sequences, 312,900+ genotyping arrays, and 1,000+ long-read sequences).

These numbers reflect data as of April 2023 Curated Data Repository (CDR) v7 data release and CDRv7 off-cycle releases in April and June 2024.

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 provides training and technical assistance to researchers who are conducting research with the *All of Us* Researcher Workbench, the cloud-based platform where registered researchers can access data contributed by *All of Us* participants. 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. 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 three Institutional Champion cohorts and research teams at 19 universities overall. 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 up to 10 months.

RTI International leads the *All of Us* Researcher Academy in collaboration with the *All of Us* Research Program's Division of Engagement and Outreach. The division partners with community organizations nationwide to foster relationships with participants, researchers, and health care providers. The academy and other researcher engagement activities are central to building a diverse community of researchers.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible, institutions must submit a written description 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. Institutions that are designated as Tribal Colleges or Universities; i.e., institutions described in section 5(e) of Executive Order 14049, will be prioritized. "Tribal Colleges and Universities" means those institutions that are chartered under the sovereign authority of their respective Tribal Nation or by the federal government and that qualify for funding under the Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities Assistance Act of 1978, [25 U.S.C. 1801](#), *et seq.*, or the Navajo Community College Assistance Act of 1978, [25 U.S.C. 640a note](#); or are listed in section 532 of the Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994, [7 U.S.C. 301 note](#).

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 up to \$10,000 each, and/or student stipends of up to \$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 10 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 participate in at least one Academy Writing Group from fall 2024 through summer 2025 and produce a manuscript for submission to a peer-reviewed journal or a grant proposal for NIH consideration using *All of Us* data by the end of the period of award.
 - 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.
5. All individual awardees (faculty, postdoctoral fellows, students) must submit to the Researcher Academy a brief professional biography within 3 months of award.
6. All institutions that receive an award must commit to monthly 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 September 24, 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



The *All of Us* Researcher Academy is supported by the Division of Engagement and Outreach, *All of Us* Research Program, National Institutes of Health, Award Number OT20D028395.

All of Us and the *All of Us* logo are registered service marks of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

RTI International is a trade name of Research Triangle Institute. RTI and the RTI logo are U.S. registered trademarks of Research Triangle Institute.