

MRC Biomedical Data Science Leadership awards – UCL Internal Selection Process

Interested applicants should read the full scope and eligibility criteria on the [call webpages](#).

UCL internal EOI deadline	Monday 20 th November at 4pm
UCL review process	20 th to 24 th November
UCL to advise applicants of the outcome of selection	w/c 27 th November
MRC outline application deadline	12 December 2023 at 4pm
<i>Further timeline available on MRC call webpage</i>	

Overview of Call

The MRC have launched a call for funding applications to understand better quality support for biomedical data science. Innovations should improve career offers, accelerate positive shifts in research culture, or advance leadership for biomedical data science. Awards will seed engagement, coordination, and evidence to inform the plans for a shared [UK-wide biomedical data science initiative](#).

The full economic cost (FEC) can be up to £500,000 (with awards of between £200-400K at 80% FEC) for 24 months' funding to support those improving the inclusion, quality, and recognition of data science within biomedical research. Projects are required to start before 15 October 2024.

The MRC have advised that a research organisation may submit **only one application as lead organisation (employer of a project lead)**. Therefore, we are implementing a selection process to select the project lead for the UCL application. Unfortunately, due to the outline deadline the timescales for this process will be very short.

UCL selection process (all UCL) – deadline Monday 20th November 2023 at 4pm

All applicants interested in being the Project Lead for the UCL application to this call should submit their expression of interest via the link below to the Microsoft Forms Expression of Interest (Eoi) form by **4pm on Monday 20th November 2023**.

The UCL Eoi form is an abbreviated version of the MRC application submitted via the new UKRI Funding Service portal. Please see call page (<https://www.ukri.org/opportunity/mrc-biomedical-data-science-leadership-awards/>) for guidance on each of the sections for what to include under the 'How to apply section'.

EOI Form link: <https://forms.office.com/e/CeH31RWVAt>

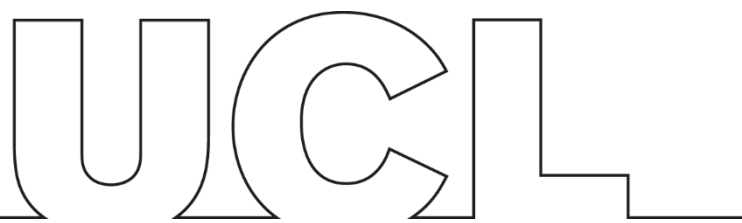
Further Details

Funded activity will develop innovation and evidence to improve how biomedical research includes, resources and recognises high-quality data science.

Applications to this opportunity must include and support those leading positive change for biomedical data science within their research organisations and beyond.

The funding responds to MRC's [Biomedical Data Science Review](#). The review highlights the need for shared responses that link across four challenges for biomedical data science:

- developing biomedical data science leadership



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- better access, recognition and support for multidisciplinary biomedical data science teams
 - improving quality, standards and professionalisation of data science within biomedical research
 - inclusive approaches to growing biomedical data science skills capacity, including improving the access and career offer

In this context, data science is defined as the use of scientific methods, and related processes and systems, to extract knowledge and insights from structured and unstructured data.

A broad definition of biomedical data is also used, ranging from omics to microscopy to medical imaging to population cohort to environmental data.

Proposals made within this opportunity will begin to test possible solutions and contribute to a developing evidence case for future national investment. Longer term, the MRC welcomes partnership to design a shared national initiative that helps all stakeholders to work together in strengthening the research culture and career offer from UK biomedical data science.

If you have any questions about the call or selection process, please contact lms.facilitators@ucl.ac.uk with any questions about this call.