



Data Science for Dynamic Intervention Decision-making Center
Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan
426 Thompson Street, Bay 2400
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104 USA

The d3c Collaborative Funding Announcement

The Data Science for Dynamic Decision-making Center (d3c) at the University of Michigan (<https://d3c.isr.umich.edu/>) is funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) to develop novel experimental designs and data analytic methods for optimizing adaptive interventions. These interventions use dynamic information about the individual to decide whether and how to modify the type, intensity, or delivery modality of treatment. A special interest is in adaptive interventions that leverage new mobile and sensing technology to adapt and personalize interventions in real time, as individuals go about their daily lives.

A portion of this funding has been designated for small projects designed to nurture collaborations and generate new externally funded research projects focused on optimizing adaptive interventions for preventing and treating substance use disorders (SUD) and HIV. Although not a requirement, projects that focus on HIV or health equity are encouraged.

The purposes of this funding opportunity are to:

- bring talented and energetic researchers into the area of adaptive interventions;
- foster new collaborative research ties between d3c researchers and others;
- generate new research projects funded by NIDA or by other NIH institutes or agencies.

Who may apply. Tenure-track/tenured faculty, research faculty (non-tenured), and Ph.D.-level research associates at the University of Michigan, Harvard University, and New York University, from any department. Prior experience in SUD research is not required. We encourage proposals from quantitatively oriented researchers with backgrounds in statistics, engineering, computer science, economics, behavioral sciences, education, and other areas, who can bring exciting new perspectives to the study of adaptive interventions.

Use of funds. Funds may be requested to conduct (a) necessary preliminary methodological work for optimizing adaptive interventions, or (b) necessary preliminary translational work and pilot testing for optimizing adaptive interventions for reducing the burden of SUD and/or HIV. The proposed work is expected to involve significant collaboration between the applicant and one or more d3c researchers, and to show promise of leading to larger-scale funded projects in the future.

Funds can be used for salary support; support of research assistants; travel for research-related meetings and conferences; data collection support (e.g., programing, participant incentives); and/or computing equipment, software, and supplies directly related to the



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proposed research. Examples of appropriate activities include methods development with simulation studies, preliminary data analysis, and pilot data collection.

Duration and amount. Studies are expected to last 12 months and should not exceed \$50,000 in total costs (Direct + Indirect).

How to apply. Submit a letter of intent by September 25, 2023. Selected applicants (notified by October 25, 2023) will be invited to submit a full proposal by January 8, 2024.

Letter of Intent should include the following:

1. Current CV of lead scientist
2. Title of the research project, lead scientist and collaborators (as applicable)
3. Specific aims outlining project goals
4. Desired amount of funding
5. d3c scientist(s) to be involved and the nature of the collaboration

Full proposals should include the following:

1. NIH biosketch of key personnel
2. Title of the research project, lead scientist and collaborators (as applicable)
3. Requested amount, budget, and an itemized budget justification. PHS 398 budget forms will be provided at the time of invitation.
4. Specific aims (up to 1 page) outlining project goals
5. Research strategy (up to 5 pages) describing:
 - a. Significance
 - b. Innovation
 - c. Approach/methods to achieve aims
 - d. Plan and timeline for a larger, external grant submission (i.e., funding agency, type of grant, and expected submission date)
 - e. d3c scientist(s) to be involved and the nature of the collaboration
6. Study timeline
7. Research team
8. Human subjects information
 - a. Inclusion of individuals across the lifespan
 - b. Inclusion of women and minorities
 - c. Recruitment and retention plan



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- d. Human subjects protection plan
- 9. Data safety and monitoring plan

Key Dates

- **Letter of Intent due date:** September 25, 2023
- **Invitation to submit full proposals:** October 25, 2023
- **Full proposal due date:** January 8, 2024
- **Announce recipients:** May 1, 2024
- **Award start date:** July 1, 2024
- **Award end date:** June 30, 2025

Where to apply. Email Letters of Intent and full proposals (as a Word document or PDF) to d3c.pilots@umich.edu with the subject "d3c Pilot Project Research Funding."

Duties of awardees. Funding recipients are required to:

- Submit written reports on their progress at six-month intervals, along with copies of any technical reports, conference presentations, drafts of articles, research proposals, and other products (e.g., software) generated by the project.
- Participate in monthly meetings with their d3c collaborator/mentor.
- Attend monthly center-wide meetings during which projects will be discussed and participants will engage in problem-solving.
- Lead a think-tank meeting to discuss, strategize, and plan their project at the beginning of their award and present results to the center at the end of their award.

Questions? If you have an idea for a new research project but are not sure whether it would qualify for this funding opportunity, or if you have questions about this application, please contact Jen Miner (jenminer@umich.edu) or any of our Center researchers. We welcome questions and are glad to offer informal advice.