Call for Proposals

UW DSSG Project Proposals will be accepted from January 3 – February 20, 2024 through our online submission portal. We invite short proposals for 10-week long data-intensive research projects making compelling, timely, and publicly relevant interventions.

This is an opportunity to work closely with data science professionals and students to make better use of data. The UW Data Science for Social Good summer program at the University of Washington eScience Institute brings together data scientists and domain researchers to work on focused, collaborative projects for societal benefit.

Each year, the eScience Institute selects several projects for inclusion in the UW Data Science for Social Good program. We provide support by assigning four Student Fellows selected and paid by the eScience Institute to work on the project full-time, along with a Data Scientist from the eScience Institute who serves as a technical advisor and helps to co-manage the project.

We welcome proposals submitted by academic researchers, public agencies, non-profit entities, and industry that are poised to take advantage of tremendous student talent, professional technical skills, and computational resources.

We look for projects that would benefit from collaboration on data science approaches, such as scalable data management, statistical analysis, machine learning, open-source software development, cloud and cluster computing, and data visualization.

Successful proposals are methodologically rigorous and designed to address societal challenges in areas including but not limited to human services, public policy, health and safety, transportation, environmental conservation, accessibility, social justice, and urban informatics. This year, up to four projects will be selected; two of these will be related to transportation and two are open to any domain or application area.

If you have an idea for a project that could benefit from access to a team of talented and motivated students, exposure to new data-intensive methods, and guidance in best practices for software development, reproducible science, and human-centered design, we would love to hear from you.

We take a very broad view of what counts as data science and support projects that vary greatly in terms of their methods, scope, and maturity. In reviewing the proposals, we will be looking for projects with well-defined deliverables that clearly articulate how the work advances social good and how the UW DSSG program can advance the project.

Projects from our previous DSSG programs may serve as useful inspiration. Click here for summaries of projects from 2015-2023. To learn more about last year’s program, read our blog about Fellows’ experiences or view their final project presentations.

Authors of accepted proposals will become Project Leads in the UW DSSG program, and will closely collaborate with a Data Scientist from the eScience Institute and an interdisciplinary team of four Student Fellows selected and paid by eScience (see sections on Project Team Composition, Location, Time Commitment, and Financial Support on the website).