

OMB Burden Statement
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Collection of this information is authorized by The Public Health Service Act, Section 411 (42 USC 285a). Rights of study participants are protected by The Privacy Act of 1974. Participation is voluntary, and there are no penalties for not participating or withdrawing from the study at any time. Refusal to participate will not affect your benefits in any way. The information collected in this study will be kept private to the extent provided by law. Names and other identifiers will not appear in any report of the study. Information provided will be combined for all study participants and reported as summaries. You are being asked to complete this form as part of an application for the Data and Technology Advancement (DATA) National Service Scholar program.

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 30 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. **An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.** Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: NIH, Project Clearance Branch, 6705 Rockledge Drive, MSC 7974, Bethesda, MD 20892-7974, ATTN: PRA (0925-0740). Do not return the completed form to this address.

Dear Dr. [reference]:

Dr. [applicant name] has applied to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Data and Technology Advancement (DATA) National Service Scholar program and named you as a reference. The DATA Scholar program aims to attract talent to the NIH to help optimize and accelerate data science in biomedicine. The program encourages transformative approaches that lead to increased efficiency, innovative research, tool development and analytics.

Thank you for providing a letter of recommendation. In your letter, please include:

- Applicant's full name, in bold.
- Your connection to the applicant.
- An assessment of applicant's strengths and weaknesses, how you feel this program might align with the applicant's interest and skill set. This may include, where applicable:
 - Comments on applicant's expertise relevant to data science, including problem solving skills.
 - Comments on applicant's professional assets, including teamwork and collaboration skills.
 - Comments on applicant's motivation and interest in advancing biomedical research.
 - Comments on applicant's contribution to enhancing diversity in the data science workforce.

Please submit by email your letter of recommendation as a PDF document by [insert date, two weeks from date of email] to ds-workforce@nih.gov, addressed to:

Alison Lin, PhD
DATA National Service Scholar Program
NIH Office of Data Science Strategy
6555 Rock Spring Drive
Bethesda, MD 20817

Additional information about the DATA Scholar program is available at <https://datascience.nih.gov/data-and-technology-advancement-data-national-service-scholar-program-data-scientists-advancing>. Please contact us with any questions about this request or the DATA Scholar program. We look forward to your recommendation letter.

Best regards,