TDAl Frequently Asked Questions

1) What’s in it for me as a Postdoctoral Scholar or Graduate Student?

TDAl has an active community of scientists, scholars, and educators representing 14 colleges and 35+ disciplines. As the next generation of data leaders, postdoctoral scholars and graduate students are invited to contribute to developing data science and analytics programs, resources, and projects that span traditional academic disciplines.

TDAl provides postdoctoral scholars and graduate students who join many benefits, including:

- **Communities of Practice (COPs):** TDAI has five research COPs, which are designed to expose members to research in other fields, enable interdisciplinary collaboration, and translate research into useful social applications. New areas may be introduced over time based on faculty interests.
- **Career Development Opportunities:** TDAI is continually developing new programs focused on the development of students and scholars. Postdoctoral scholars and graduate students can help teach workshops in our Data Literacy Series, teach or contribute to the lesson plans of our Data Science for Women Summer Camp, apply for TDAI Data Fellowships (coming soon), and participate in COP meetings and seminars.
- **Priority for Workshops:** TDAI members receive priority for seats on our Data Literacy Series. These workshops cover data training in software (R, Excel, SQL) and data applications ranging from beginner to advanced.
- **Access to Research Opportunities:** With more than 180 faculty as well as community/industry partners, new opportunities for research or projects become available often. Be the first to know by being a TDAI member!
- **Marketing and Communications:** Members can be featured in newsletters, online news articles, marketing pieces, and on our interactive video wall in Pomerene Hall. TDAI boasts a monthly newsletter with funding opportunities and news, as well as a robust website with information on data tools and resources across campus.
- **Present and Attend TDAI Events:** TDAI hosts a number of events throughout the year that postdoctoral scholars and graduate students are encouraged to attend and participate, including present a poster at our annual Fall Forum or attending our special lectures/seminars.
- **Volunteer or Serve:** Many of the events we host are opportunities for you to volunteer. We’re always looking for folks to help plan, staff, and partner with on our events.

2) What is the process for TDAI membership?

Postdoctoral Scholars and Graduate Students can join TDAI by visiting online at https://tdai.osu.edu/join-tdai/. Click the Join button at the bottom of the page and simply fill out a quick survey with your information. Applicants will be notified via email as soon as their information has been processed.
3) **Can I encourage others to join TDAI. How can they get involved?**

Yes! Anyone interested in data science and analytics is welcome to join TDAI (online at [https://tdai.osu.edu/join-tdai/](https://tdai.osu.edu/join-tdai/)). Members receive communications from the institute with news, events, and more. Our goal is to build a community of data creators, data users, and data enthusiasts who want to use big data for good.