

NCBI North Texas Codeathon

May 18-20, 2021

We are pleased to announce an online life sciences codeathon.

To apply, please complete the [application form](#) by **April 28, 2021 by 3pm CT**.

What is a codeathon?

An NCBI Codeathon is an event where small groups of people work together on team projects in a short, concentrated burst of effort. It's not a competition, just a space to work on interesting and important problems with your fellow scientists.

By participating in a codeathon, you get to:

Make something cool. Codeathons give you space to solve problems and create tools outside of the distractions of your daily life.

Learn something new. Codeathons are a great place to learn new skills, try out new methods, and share knowledge with teammates.

Build a community. Codeathons are an opportunity to meet other scientists with diverse backgrounds and common interests.

Who can participate?

We encourage researchers and data scientists at any stage to apply. Teams will benefit from participants with any of the following skills:

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| Familiarity with methods for manipulating and/or analyzing large datasets | Data visualization |
| Working knowledge of scripting (e.g., Shell, Python, R) | Data mining and text analysis |
| Developing bioinformatics code, pipelines, or tools | Analyzing biological sequence data |
| | Science communication |

What are possible team projects?

This codeathon will be broad in scope with computational and data analysis projects in the life sciences. Projects are proposed by team leaders and refined for the codeathon event. For examples of projects from previous NCBI Codeathon events, take a look at these [project repositories](#).

How are teams formed?

Before the event, we will create five to eight teams, composed of five to six individuals each with various backgrounds and expertise. Each team will be led by an experienced leader.

What will a typical day be like?

We will meet on Zoom from 9 am to 5 pm CT each day. Each day, teams will present short talks to introduce their project (day 1), discuss project progress (day 2), and present the results (day 3). We will also gather as a group for a few short presentations on a hot topic of interest to the bioinformatics and biomedical community (such as bioinformatics best practices, coding styles, related biomedical topics, etc.) and then break out to work on team projects.

What will we build?

Materials created in this codeathon will be made available in a public [NCBI Codeathons GitHub](#) repository. We encourage teams to publish manuscripts describing what they have created.

How can I apply?

To apply, please complete this [application form](#). Applications are due April 28, 2021 by 3 pm CT. We will select participants based on their experience and their motivation to attend. We encourage prior participants and prior applicants to apply.

When will I know if I am selected to participate?

We will notify the first round of accepted applicants on May 3, 2021. Accepted applicants have until May 6th at 12noon CT to confirm their participation. If you confirm, please make sure that you can attend, as confirming and not attending prevents other scientists from attending this event. Please provide a monitored email address, in case we have follow-up questions.

Legal

Participants retain ownership of all intellectual property rights (including moral rights) to the code submitted to as well as developed in the codeathon. Employees of the U.S. Government attending as part of their official duties retain no copyright to their work and their work is in the public domain in the U.S. The Government disclaims any rights to the code submitted or developed in the codeathon. Participants agree to publish the code and any related data on GitHub.

Who can I contact with questions?

Please email [Daniel Rice, Ph.D.](#), NCBI Codeathon Coordinator.