



# Health Data for Action

(Data Access Award)

Applicant Informational Webinar  
July 18, 2023





# Speakers



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# Technical Assistance

- This webinar is being recorded. The recording will be posted on the RWJF and AcademyHealth websites.
- Questions may be submitted at any time using the Q&A box.
  - Questions will be answered following the presentation.
- If you need any technical assistance, please message us using the Q&A box.



# Health Data for Action (HD4A)

Data Access Award



- HD4A aims to reduce the barriers often faced in accessing rich data by serving as a conduit between data owners and interested researchers
- The CFP will make valuable data from unique data owners available to researchers
- Goal: with greater access to health data, researchers can better answer important questions





# HD4A: Data Providers

- 2023 CFP will offer successful applicants access to one of the following datasets:

Electronic Health Record & Clinical Data	Claims & Encounter Data	Transparency in Coverage Data
American Health Associates	All Payer Claims Database-Colorado	Clarify Health
COVID-19 Research Database	All Payer Claims Database-Virginia	Serif Health
HealthShare Exchange (HSX)	Health Care Cost Institute (HCCI)	Turquoise Health
Nebraska Healthcare Collaborative	Medicare Advantage (MA) enrollment and encounter data	Mathematica Data Innovation Lab
New Jersey Integrated Population Health Data (iPHD)	Transformed Medicaid Statistical Information System (T-MSIS) Analytic Files (TAF), from Mathematica Data Innovation Lab	
OCHIN Community Health Equity EHR Database		
Truveta, in partnership with Mathematica Data Innovation Lab		



# HD4A: Award Details

- *Data Access Awards*
  - Successful applicants will be given access to the selected dataset at no cost to the grantee.
  - No financial award will be given with these awards, which are solely for data access.
  - Data access will accommodate studies of 12-24 months.
  - We anticipate awarding up to 20 projects, and no specific breakdown by data provider is prescribed.



# HD4A: Award Details

- *First-Time Investigator Awards*
  - Up to \$600,000 available, to support up to 6 awards. The six studies will include projects using any of the available datasets, and no specific breakdown by data source is prescribed.
  - Recommended project funding is up to \$100,000 per project to accommodate studies of 12-24 months, and successful applicants will be given access to the selected dataset at no cost.
  - The First-Time Investigator Awards will be restricted to applications with a principal investigator who is a first-time investigator on a grant award at the time of application.



# HD4A: Applicant Eligibility

- Applicant organizations based in the United States or its territories.
- Preference will be given to applicants that are either public entities or nonprofit organizations that are tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- Projects may be generated from disciplines.
- Use of the data under this CFP is restricted to noncommercial purposes.
- Consistent with our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Commitment, we particularly encourage applications with project directors or team members from backgrounds historically underrepresented in research disciplines as a result of their race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, disability, or other factors.





# HD4A: Applicant Eligibility

- *First-Time Investigator Awards*
  - Restricted to an application from an eligible organization with a principal investigator who is a first-time investigator on a grant award at the time of application.
  - Principal Investigator should not have previously served as a principal investigator on any grant award (after completion of their terminal research degree).
    - Principal investigators from backgrounds historically underrepresented in research disciplines are encouraged to apply.
    - A co-principal investigator on the application may have previously served as a principal investigator or co-principal investigator on a grant award before.



# HD4A: Application Process

- Apply online through My.RWJF.org
- Stage 1: 4-page brief proposal narrative
  - Deadline: August 18, 2023 (3 P.M. ET)
  - Applicants notified whether invited to submit full proposals on November 3, 2023
- Stage 2: Invited stage 1 applicants submit a 10-page full proposal narrative
  - Data Access Awards: also submit a brief narrative that describes the research team's time allocation and resources available to support the project
  - First-Time Investigator Awards: also submit a line-item budget and budget narrative
  - Deadline: January 12, 2024 (3 P.M. ET)
- Notification of finalists: May 1, 2024
- Grants start: June 15, 2024



## HD4A: Selection Criteria

- Importance, significance, and policy relevance of the question to be addressed.
- Strength of the proposed methodology.
- Innovative use of the available data.
- Strength, expertise, and qualifications of the full research team.
- Ability to inform decision-makers and other key stakeholders and create timely deliverables for wide dissemination in addition to papers suitable for peer-reviewed publication.
- Demonstrated ability to carry out the project within the proposed timeline.



# HD4A: Research Topics of Interest

- Projects could examine a wide array of topics, including, but not limited to:
  - National practice patterns in long-term care
  - Diagnostic quality
  - Health effects of COVID-19
  - Risk adjustment
  - Rehospitalization rates
  - Opioid epidemic
  - Maternal and infant health
  - Home- and community-based services
  - Healthcare costs and utilization
  - Prescription patterns and medication adherence
  - Prevalence of chronic disease
  - Consolidation and competition
  - Rate comparisons
- Research questions that are not listed in the CFP are encouraged



## HD4A: Application Tips

- Reference all resources provided in the CFP.
- Limit background description of issue and focus on significance and uniqueness of research questions.
- Clearly describe research questions, hypotheses and methods.
- Articulate how findings will be actionable.
- Carefully note the deadline date, time **and** time zone. Deadline time is always shown as Eastern Time (ET).

# HD4A: Call for Proposals

## Health Data for Action (Data Access Award)

GRANTS > ACTIVE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES > HEALTH DATA FOR ACTION (DATA ACCESS AWARD)

### Application Deadline

August 18, 2023 3:00 PM

APPLY ONLINE >

### Award Contact

AcademyHealth

### Introduction & Purpose

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's (RWJF) commitment to reach a national Culture of Health that provides everyone in America a fair and just opportunity for health includes efforts to gather evidence and produce tools to advance health and health equity. Recognizing that access to rich data is a cornerstone of producing timely and objective research, RWJF's Health Data for Action (HD4A) program is designed to leverage health data for actionable insights.

HD4A aims to reduce the barriers often faced in accessing rich data by serving as a conduit between unique data owners and interested researchers. Under this 2023 HD4A call for proposals (CFP), successful

## Grant Resources

Preview A Sample Proposal  
Before Submitting

PREVIEW A SAMPLE PROPOSAL BEFORE SUBMITTING ↓

Full Funding Opportunity

PDF DOWNLOAD ↓

FAQs For Applicants >

The Grant Process: What To  
Expect >

# HD4A: Data Set Resources

## American Health Associates

American Health Associates (AHA) is the #1 mobile diagnostics provider in the United States, serving 31% of Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs) in the country. AHA operates 20 full-service laboratories and employs nearly a thousand mobile phlebotomists who are dispatched daily. The patient population served by AHA is unique, as long-term-care facilities cater to a vulnerable, diverse, and frail demographic. AHA's data set covers millions of observations over many years, with an average of five observations per patient over time, linking demographic data with laboratory results. This data is ideal for studying national practice patterns in long-term care, physician characteristics associated with underuse or overuse of testing, diagnostic quality, diagnostic safety, public health surveillance, chronic condition monitoring, end-of-life care, and more. Under the HD4A CFP, AHA plans to share de-identified, longitudinal, multi-payer data sets of lab results with individual patient-level data to researchers, which may be linkable to other data sources with advance notice.

- A more detailed description of the data is available [here](#).
- A video recording of the data set is available [here](#).
- A data dictionary is available [here](#).
- For questions about the AHA data, please contact Nirav Shah, [nshah@ahalabs.com](mailto:nshah@ahalabs.com)



### American Health Associates Data Description

This is supporting information for the 2023 Health Data for Action (HD4A) Call for Proposals. To apply or for more information about the funding opportunity, please visit [www.rwjf.org/en/about](https://www.rwjf.org/en/about).

Provided to 100% American Health Associates (AHA) is the #1 full-service mobile diagnostics provider in the United States currently meeting the laboratory needs of 31% of all Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs) in the country. AHA operates 20 full-service laboratories and has over 10 million patient encounters in 2022. Its mission is to deliver the extensive network of mobile diagnostic testing to provide accessible and timely care.

AHA employs nearly one thousand (975) mobile phlebotomists who are dispatched daily, representing the combined number of phlebotomists from all other companies serving long-term care. AHA's operations affect roughly 24-hour, 24-hour treatment time across 28 states, with more than 400,000 patient encounters completed within a 5-hour treatment time (i.e., 21:07 hours) last year. An additional 22 states receive coverage with a 12-hour treatment time, including various, weekends, and holidays.

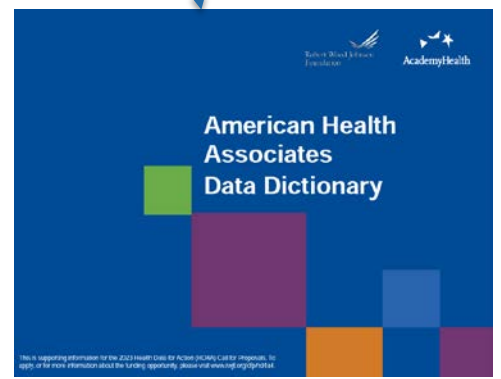
The patient population served by AHA is unique, as long-term-care facilities, including nursing homes and SNFs, cater to a vulnerable, diverse, and frail demographic. Patients include two types of individuals: those discharged from hospitals and 2-year acute care, and long-term patients with multiple comorbidities and often cognitive impairment whose care needs span three decades or more. Long-term care settings, both group and individual, diagnose and bring to medical care. While long-term care offers advantages in the building, nursing homes and SNFs do not, so all need rapid and high-quality testing for their residents. AHA addresses this need.

Long-term care facilities serve a population that generally reflects the racial/ethnicity of the US population but with disproportionate rates among racial/ethnic minorities. Black, Hispanic, and Latino residents experience negative outcomes at much higher rates than white residents, as evidenced by the 4% higher COVID-19 death rates in high-minority nursing homes compared to facilities with an otherwise being the population.

AHA has amassed a critical dataset from this unique population. Currently, about a quarter of hospital discharges to nursing homes result in readmissions, which place a significant burden on that patient and incur penalties for hospitals. AHA data includes all medical and clinical diagnostic data for patients readmitted to hospitals. In 2023, AHA data will be linked to the National Health and Medical Research Council (NH&MRC) and Clinical Researcher Resource Center (CRRCC) covering over 100,000 unique patient data annually.

The data set captures millions of observations over many years. Its longitudinal nature timely interventions per patient at different time points to design and to results covering on health status, symptoms, and other laboratory tests) under a granular measure for health care utilization, optimization, and those observed in population health. The dataset can be used for studying national practice patterns to long-term care, physician characteristics associated with outcomes or measures of diagnostic quality, diagnostic safety, public health surveillance, outbreak response, transmission dynamics, chronic condition monitoring, end-of-life care, and more. It also offers a ready-to-use research opportunity to study the unique patient population in care in real-time research.

Under the HD4A CFP, AHA plans to share de-identified, longitudinal, multi-payer datasets of lab results with individual patient-level data to researchers. With advance planning, the dataset may be linkable to other data sources. AHA will collaborate with each awarded research group to create a combined dataset from the multiple linked data, adhering to data de-identification requirements.



American Health Associates RWJF HD4A 2023 Data Overview



# HD4A: RWJF Applicant Deadline Policy

- Late submissions will not be accepted for any reason.
- Complete your application online instead of offline.
  - As soon as possible, look for templates and detailed instructions in the online application site to guide you in submitting the appropriate information in the required format.
  - Applications that are not fully completed online by the deadline, and in the specified format, will not be accepted.
- All proposals for this solicitation must be submitted via the RWJF online system. Visit [www.rwjf.org/cfp/hd4a4](http://www.rwjf.org/cfp/hd4a4) and use the “Apply Online” link.
- Please note that, in the 24-hour period leading up to the proposal deadline, staff may not be able to assist all applicants with any system-related issues.
- Applicant deadline is August 18, 2023 (3 p.m. ET)





# Questions about the application process?

Contact: [healthdataforaction@rwjf.org](mailto:healthdataforaction@rwjf.org)

Follow: @HlthData4Action

Apply: <http://www.rwjf.org/cfp/hd4a4>