

Health Data Science Black Internship Programme





We are passionate about helping transform the prospects of and providing the opportunities for, early career Black people in the UK to flourish in their future health data science careers through our Health Data Science Black Internship Programme.

We are now inviting expressions of interest from organisations who would like to host our next cohort of interns participating in our 2022 Health Data Science Black Internship Programme.

Read on to find out more about the programme, the benefits and how your organisation can get involved.



What is the aim of our Health Data Science Black Internship Programme?

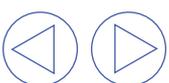
The UK has an urgent need for health data scientists – it’s a rapidly expanding field with the recognised potential to transform the future of health and care for all. As both the national institute for health data science and an alliance of leading healthcare and research organisations, we believe that health data science should be as effective as possible in serving and reflecting the needs of the entire UK population.

The overall aim of our Health Data Science Black Internship Programme is not only to tackle the underrepresentation of Black people within the health data science industry, but to also provide motivated candidates with an opportunity to expand their knowledge around health data science and gain the experience they need to kick start their careers.

Planned for the summer of 2022, this programme offers interns a high-quality, eight-week internship with one of our host organisations. Throughout the internship, interns will have the opportunity to learn more about health data science in action, gain hands-on experience, extend their network and carry out their own clearly defined research projects.

“Health data science is essential in enabling vital research that improves people’s lives. In the UK, we need talented health data scientists who represent all of us to lead this vital work. Through our Black Internship Programme, interns will gain real life health data science experience, helping us create a sector that all scientists will thrive within”

Caroline Cake, CEO at Health Data Research UK (HDR UK)



How was our 2021 Health Data Science Black Internship Programme a success?



Our 2021 Health Data Science Black Internship Programme placed 48 interns – over half being women – at 23 of our host organisations, including The Cystic Fibrosis Trust, Barts Health NHS Trust, the British Heart Foundation (BHF) Data Science Centre, the University of Cambridge and more. Many of our 2021 interns have now secured short-term or permanent jobs thanks to the experience they gained and network they built through our 2021 Health Data Science Black Internship Programme.

“The interns completed their projects beyond initial expectations of the team.”

2021 Host Organisation

“Don’t hesitate to get involved in this incredible programme.”

2021 Host Organisation

Feedback from our 2021 host organisations

100%

found the recruitment process excellent or very good

82%

felt communication with us was either excellent or good

91%

thought the interns were well or sufficiently prepared

83%

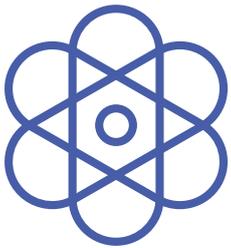
thought the intern had the ability to take up a long-term role in their organisation

100%

rated their experience of the programme excellent or good



Feedback from our 2021 interns



100%

now actively considering a career in data science



100%

would recommend the programme to others



84%

anticipate career progression as a result of the programme



“I am eternally grateful for being selected to be part of this programme as it has opened up a world of opportunities for

me. I am mighty proud to be part of the first cohort of Health Data Research UK Black health data science interns!”

Dr Shukrat O. Salisu-Olatunji, Intern at National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)

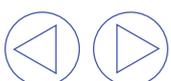


“I am now beaming with a lot more confidence in my career prospects than before.

Until I started the internship, I felt I was just a public health graduate searching for seemingly non-existent public health jobs. But this internship has opened my mind to a whole world of new possibilities”

Evans Zoyah, Intern at The Digital Research Service, University of Nottingham

[Hear more from our 2021 interns](#)



Are you an eligible host organisation?

We are seeking host organisations from across the UK who can provide a well-structured eight-week internship, which offers insights and in action health data science experience. Your organisation might be from industry, charities, government bodies, the NHS or academia – all are welcome!

What is expected from host organisations?

We ask that our host organisations:

- Manage the interview process by selecting candidates from sifted applications provided by HDR UK and the Alliance, selecting interviewees and running the interviews.
- Set up a suitable project and provide the skills and training needed for interns to effectively carry these out.
- Organise the interns' contracts of employment and payroll at [London Living Wage](#) or higher (regardless of where the interns or host organisation is based) and manage all aspects of the relationship with their interns.
- Identify a line manager and mentor for their interns.
- Alongside the interns, determine the environment of the internships – being online, face to face or hybrid.
- Contribute topics and speakers for our 2021 Black Internship Programme cohort-wide training programmes and activities.
- Provide interns who require a laptop with laptops for the duration of the internship.

What can host organisations expect from interns?

Host organisations can expect interns who are currently studying at a university in the UK, on a gap year or have recently graduated from a UK university. The programme is open to people of all academic backgrounds but it is ideally suited to individuals with a degree in maths, biological sciences, and engineering or computer sciences. Some of the skills that interns will bring to their placements include:

- Sound quantitative skills and the ability to conduct analyses using data.
- Competent pattern recognition and predictive modelling skills.
- Passion for solving health data problems, no matter how big or small; and are strongly motivated to get things done.
- Appreciation for our mission as the UK's national institute for health data science to unite the UK's health data to enable discoveries that improve people's lives, and balance this with a collaborative mindset to prioritise your work.

What can host organisations expect from us?

As the organisers of the Health Data Science Black Internship Programme, we will ensure that we:

- Promote the programme to a national audience to generate a large pool of potential candidates.
- Oversee the recruitment process from receipt of applications to sifting, whilst also ensuring that host organisations have suitable interviewees.
- Manage the internship education and co-ordinate cohort-wide training programmes and activities throughout.

Programme timeline

- Expressions of interest from potential hosts organisations are welcome
Now – 7 January 2022
- Intern applications are open from
24 November 2021 – 21 January 2022
- Intern interviews take place between
21 February 2022 – 1 April 2022
- The eight-week internships will commence on
4 July 2022

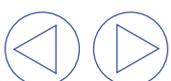
How can your organisation get involved?

Please contact us to express your host organisation's interest in our 2022 Health Data Science Black Internship Programme. We look forward to hearing from you!

[Contact us](#)

Visit our website to find out more about the Health Data Science Black Internship Programme, as well as read our FAQ section.

[Visit our website](#)



About Health Data Research UK

Health Data Research UK (HDR UK) is the national institute for health data that includes England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. Our mission is to unite the UK's health data to enable discoveries that improve people's lives.

We are building the UK's health data research infrastructure to enable safe and efficient data discovery through the Health Data Research Innovation Gateway – a common entry point to discover and request access to UK health datasets, view research projects, publications and data tools – all vital for research and innovation.

We are a charity funded by UK Research and Innovation (UKRI), the Department of Health and Social Care in England and equivalents in Northern Ireland, Wales and Scotland, and leading medical research charities.



[@HDR_UK](#)
www.hdruk.ac.uk

About The Health Data Research Innovation Gateway

The Health Data Research Innovation Gateway (the 'Gateway') is a common entry point to discover and request access to UK health datasets, view research projects, publications and data tools -all vital for research and innovation. It does not hold or store any patient or health data. It aims to increase transparency around accessible datasets and processes associated with their access. The Gateway is part of the UK-wide capability for the responsible use of health data for research and innovation, funded by the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund (ISCF).



www.healthdatagateway.org

About the UK Health Data Research Alliance

The UK Health Data Research Alliance (the 'Alliance') is an independent alliance of leading healthcare and research organisations united to establish best practice for the ethical use of UK health data for research at scale.

We develop and co-ordinate the adoption of tools, techniques, conventions, technologies, and designs that enable the use of health data in a trustworthy and ethical way for research and innovation.

By combining expertise and a shared commitment to work collaboratively, we are helping researchers to answer some of the most difficult questions and address the most important health challenges faced in the UK.

The Alliance is co-ordinated by Health Data Research UK (HDR UK) and was formally launched on 7 February 2019.



www.ukhealthdata.org

