

Google Cloud & Harvard Global Health Institute Partner to Accelerate COVID-19 Research

Call for Proposal

Google Cloud is partnering with the Harvard Global Health Institute (HGHI) to accelerate important research to address the COVID-19 pandemic using Google Cloud. Academic researchers whose work investigates the novel coronavirus can apply for Google Cloud Research Credits.

Teams at Google and HGHI will review proposals and expedite Google Cloud Research Credits to approved researchers. All submitted proposals will be reviewed by the Google Cloud & HGHI Selection Committee on the following criteria: potential for scientific and/or clinical impact, potential to address urgent needs related to COVID-19, demonstrated need for Google Cloud Platform tools, and skill/experience demonstrated by the proposal lead. With this [powerful technology](#), researchers can collaborate from around the globe to speed up response to COVID-19.

All research approaches will be considered under this call. This includes clinical research, bench science research, drug delivery and therapeutics research, health services and policy research, research focused on economic stabilization and recovery, and epidemiological research.

Application Guidelines & Submission Deadlines

Proposals should include, but not be limited to, the following:

- ❑ **Background and Specific Aims:** Briefly describe the research problem to be addressed and the context. List specific aims, hypothesis, and rationale.
- ❑ **Project Approach:** Briefly outline how the work will be carried out and which Google Cloud Platform tools will be used to accomplish this.
- ❑ **Project Timeline:** Summarize anticipated project outcomes and proposed timeline.

Proposals will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Applicants will be notified up to 1-week after submission. Proposals are limited to 500 words, not including references. Applications must be submitted in English.

[Apply for credits here](#)

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the eligibility criteria to apply for Google Cloud Platform research credits for COVID-19?

Applicants must be a verifiable researcher from a commercial, nonprofit, government or academic research institution. Please note that government related requests will be reviewed on the basis of compliance with regulatory norms prior to considering the application. The institution must be based in a country where GCP credits are approved:

Australia	Austria	Belgium	Bulgaria
Canada	Cyprus	Czech Republic	Denmark
Estonia	Finland	France	Germany
Greece	Hungary	Ireland	India (Limited)
Israel	Italy	Latvia	Lithuania
Luxembourg	Malta	Netherlands	New Zealand
Norway	Poland	Portugal	Romania
Slovakia	Spain	Sweden	Switzerland
United Kingdom	United States		

2. Is there a deadline to apply?

No, applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis during the COVID-19 pandemic.

3. What type of research will be approved?

Google will be funding COVID-19 related research projects for potential treatments, techniques and datasets, and working with the Harvard Global Health Institute to prioritize grant recipients based on the project impact on public health. Preference will be given to projects that plan to make their datasets publicly available and referenceable. Unlike academic research seed grants, COVID-19 research grants are designed to fund urgent public health related projects in-full. COVID-19 research grants are valid for 90 days only.

4. Will credit grants for COVID-19 related work that is not research be accepted?

The pool of credits is exclusively for COVID-19 related research and cannot be used for other Cloud computing needs.

5. How long does it take from the moment I apply to when my credit is issued?

Applications for larger amounts of credits will be reviewed on a rolling basis between the Harvard Global Health Institute and Google Cloud committee. We expect the majority of reviews to be completed within 1-2 weeks, but if follow-up questions are required, then this may be extended.

6. How much are the credit awards?

Research credits are meant to fully fund COVID-19 related research in accordance with the proposal submitted. Please expect that higher credit requests may require further follow-up.

7. When will the credits expire?

Credit awards must be activated within 60 days of the project start date indicated in the application form. Credit awards will expire 90 days from the coupon redemption date, or when the credit amount has been fully used, whichever comes first.

8. Can a researcher submit multiple applications?

Yes, although this will be taken into consideration when reviewing our support priorities.

9. Can multiple individuals from the same research proposal apply?

Only one person per research proposal may apply.

10. Can multiple individuals from the same research institution apply for different proposals?

Yes. Each proposal will be evaluated for compliance and impact on its own merit.

11. Can I still apply if I have a researcher on my team working in a country where Google Cloud Credits are not approved?

To be considered, the Google Cloud account must be located in an approved country from the list above.

12. Can a researcher who has already received a Google Cloud research credit grant apply?

Yes. Researchers who are currently utilizing a Google Cloud research credit grant can submit a new research proposal related to COVID-19 to be considered.

13. What can GCP credits awarded through this program be used for?

Google Cloud research credits can be used for most computing services on Google Cloud Platform such as storage, compute, and data analysis. The credits can not be used for Maps Platform products. Credits may not be used for Google Cloud support packages. Credits must only be used for COVID-19 research described in the proposal section of your application.

14. What documentation or training is available?

Explore [Google Cloud Platform documentation](#) and our [Getting Started with Google Cloud Platform Guide](#). Specific to COVID-19 related research, our [Genomic data reference architecture](#) site may be relevant as well as a pre-hosted repository of public datasets like [Johns Hopkins Center for Systems Science and Engineering](#) (JHU CSSE), US Census, and Hospital General Information from HHS via our BigQuery [public datasets program](#).

15. How should I disclose that I received and used Google Cloud credits in my research?

You should acknowledge the connection between your project and your use of Google Cloud Platform via a research credit, with a statement like the following: "This material is based upon work supported by Google Cloud."

16. What GCP Terms of Service apply to my use of GCP services?

If you have a current GCP account through your educational institution, the Terms of Service negotiated

between your institution and Google will continue to apply, as before. If you do not have a pre-existing GCP account through your educational institution and must create a new account to access GCP services, the Terms of Service you must click-to-accept govern your use of GCP.

17. What are the tax and/or legal implications of receiving a free credit award?

Researchers should consult their own tax and/or legal advisors if they have questions about the tax and/or legal implications of receiving research credits from Google Cloud.

18. How do I estimate the amount I request in Google Cloud Platform credits?

To estimate credit size based on current prices, see the [Google Cloud Platform Pricing Calculator](#).

19. Who should I contact if I have any questions?

For any additional questions, please contact gcpresearchcredits@google.com.