



The Center for AI and Data Science at Tel Aviv University (TAD)

Call for Research Proposals 2023

A main mission of TAD Center is to advance innovative research in the fields of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Data Science (DS) throughout campus, and to foster research collaborations between different disciplines in both core and application subjects. TAD is pleased to announce a new call for the year 2023 which will focus on two tracks:

1. Seed grants to support new collaborative ideas in AI and DS research.
2. Research projects in AI and data science in all disciplines.

For both tracks - proposed projects can be in core or application areas.

The awarded grants will represent the full diversity of the research areas where AI & DS can play a major role. We expect to award up to 20 grants, out of which approximately five grants will be in the fields of humanities, arts, social sciences, and law to specifically advance research in AI and DS in these fields.

The calls are open to PIs at Tel Aviv University.

Application timeline and mechanism

Submission deadline is December 17, 2022 (midnight). Each proposal should be submitted as a single PDF file, and emailed to: datascience@tauex.tau.ac.il.

Questions should be sent to Dr. Shiri Stempler at: shiristemp@tauex.tau.ac.il.

Award announcement is expected in March 1st, 2023.

1. Seed Grants

In this track we seek proposals that support new and ambitious ideas in AI and DS with the **objective of getting initial results**. We welcome proposals from all disciplines at TAU. We especially aim to fund collaborations of faculty whose work bridges two or more disciplines and proposals that can make a persuasive case that these initial results will catalyze further funding from external funding sources.

We expect to award approximately 5 grants, up to 50K NIS each for a one year period.

2. Call for proposals in AI and DS

The goal of this track is to foster new collaborative projects on-campus between scientists (from any discipline) with challenging DS and AI problems in both (I) core and (II) application areas:

I) To advance the interdisciplinary research and collaboration in the core topics of AI and DS. Core topics may contain the development of new data analysis and AI methods, analysis of existing solutions and so on.

II) To encourage interdisciplinary research and application of AI and DS to advance research throughout campus in the different areas: life sciences, medicine, social sciences, arts and humanities, law, management, physical sciences, engineering and so on.

Each funded proposal in this track will be awarded a budget of up to 100K NIS per year for up to two years and the submitted projects should be likely to reach a successful outcome in this time frame. There will be a review point after 10 months, and funding for the second year will be conditioned on establishing sufficient progress.

Eligibility Criteria

Applicants must be Principal Investigators (PIs) at TAU.

Research proposals may be submitted by a team of up to 3 PIs. **A single PI can submit as well, preferably with a plan for collaborations in carrying out the project.** Non-core PIs who wish to submit are encouraged to meet with TAD's "Bridge" consulting unit to discuss the feasibility of the project and potential for collaborations with TAD or throughout campus.

Evaluation criteria:

Strong preference will be given to projects that address each of these areas to the fullest extent possible:

- Scientific merit
- Impact of the proposed research
- Substantial role of AI / DS
- Involving multiple disciplines
- Qualifications of the proposed research team to achieve proposal goals
- Appropriateness of the requested resources

The proposals should include:

1. A short abstract (1/2 page)
2. Research description which includes a description of the scientific problem, aims, the AI/ DS approach and preliminary results if they exist (preliminary results are not required for the seed grants track)
(up to 2 pages)
3. A description of the expected impact (1/2 page)
4. A list of participants + short bio + 3 most relevant publications in the last 5 years for each (1 page each)
5. A statement of ethical compliance, if relevant
6. Required budget and its usage. The requested budget should be limited to 100K NIS per year. The awarded budget may be smaller. (1/2 page)
7. References

Additional information:

1. Any ethical aspects which require approval (such as collection of human information) are solely the responsibility of the submitters, and the submitters are required to state and ensure that all approvals will be obtained prior to the implementation of the grant.
2. Collaborating investigators (CIs) may be from other institutions in Israel or abroad.
3. PIs may submit one proposal in each track, and may receive funding in both tracks.
4. All publications, presentations and products from this award should acknowledge TAD.