



Undergraduate Data Science and AI Scholars – Call for Applications

Submission Deadline: Friday, July 10, 2026

We are pleased to announce the Undergraduate Data Science and AI Scholars program for supporting students in **Fall 2026**. The Data Science and AI Scholars program welcomes undergraduate scholars from multiple disciplines, including non-STEM majors, who will examine all aspects of data and its impact on society. This year, scholars will have the opportunity to be **teaching fellows** or **research fellows**. Scholars will be able to work on research projects in Climate Science, Deepfake detection, and other data science-related projects.

Students selected through this effort will be part of the Data Science and AI Scholars program, which will be run in partnership with the [Center for Women in Technology](#) (CWIT), the [Information Systems Department](#) (IS), and the [Center for Social Science Scholarship](#) (CS3).

Selected scholars will be assigned to respective affiliations (CWIT/IS or CS3) depending on the student's major, and the scholars' expectations per affiliation are as follows:

Center for Women in Technology (CWIT) Responsibilities:

Research Fellows

- Scholars who will work as research fellows will work on a supervised research project and be mentored by faculty. Scholars will be paid **\$20.00/hour for specific tasks**, for **5 - 10 hours per week** during **Fall 2026**.
- Scholars will attend at least two events in Fall 2026 and/or participate in research initiatives and professional development for their leadership growth and mentoring. Mentors will coordinate this at CWIT.
- Scholars will need to [register as CWIT Affiliates](#) to participate in the 2 required events.
- Scholars will be required to enroll in a [Zero-credit Practicum course on research experience](#) (PRAC 98C) through the UMBC Career Center.

Teaching Fellows

- Scholars will work as teaching fellows and peer mentors for undergraduate students in **IS 296 - Foundations of Data Science**, and support students throughout the course.. The scholars will devote time to mentoring and leadership development efforts for their advancement. The cohort of scholars will meet as a group under the supervision of the IS 296 instructor. Scholars will be paid **\$20.00/hour for specific tasks**, for **5 - 10 hours per week** during **Fall 2026**.
- Scholars who will work as teaching fellows will be expected to be available to assist with classes and also present during lectures. Fall 2026 class schedule is as follows: Mondays 4:30 - 7:00 pm (*Instructor: Dr. Karen Chen*), and Wednesdays 4:30 - 7:00 pm (*Instructor: Zehra Zaidi*)
- Scholars will be required to attend **one mentoring meeting per month** with the coordinator
- Scholars will be required to enroll in a [Zero-credit Practicum course on research experience](#) (PRAC 98C) through the UMBC Career Center.

Center for Social Science Scholarship (CS3) Responsibilities:

Research Fellows

- Scholars who will work as research fellows will work on a supervised research project and be mentored by faculty. Scholars will be paid **\$20.00/hour for specific tasks**, for **5 - 10 hours per week** during **Fall 2026**.
- Scholars will attend at least two events in Fall 2026 and/or participate in research initiatives and professional development for their leadership growth and mentoring. Mentors will coordinate this at CS3.
- Scholars will also be expected to attend **one mentoring meeting** with the faculty.
- Scholars will be required to enroll in a [Zero-credit Practicum course on research experience](#) (PRAC 98C) through the UMBC Career Center.

Background and Skills:

ALL applicants should have knowledge in **AT LEAST ONE** of the following:

- Analysis of social, behavioral, economic, or geographic data
- Python **or** one of the data science tools and/or languages (such as R, Rapid Miner, Weka, Orange, Knime, ML on cloud computing)
- Jupyter Notebooks with Python or taken IS 296 in a prior semester.

Application Form:

Interested students should complete the [Google Submission Form](#), OR access the form using the following link: <https://forms.gle/FFUAa5RpDNMGYvTY9> **by Friday, July 10, 2026**.

Questions:

For questions, please email our team at DataScienceAIScholars@umbc.edu

To learn more about potential projects, please check out the following websites:

- <https://www.umces.edu/chesapeake-global-collaboratory>
- <https://iharp.umbc.edu>
- <https://mdata.umbc.edu/deep-fake-detection/>
- <https://socialscience.umbc.edu/>