# Application

Ref No (admin only):

# ONS Data Science Campus Sponsorship for the MSc in Data Analytics for Government (MDataGov) Programme

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| 1. **Applicant Details**
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| **Title:** | **Last name:** | **First name:** |
|  **Work Address (include Department name) :**  |
|  **Tel (work):** |
|   **Email (work):** |
|  **2. Academic and Professional Qualifications**  |
| **2.1 Most Recent/Relevant Academic Qualifications**Please give details of your most recent /current undergraduate or postgraduate degree  |
| **University/College** | **Degree/ Subject** | **Degree grade** | **Date Degree Awarded** |
|  |  |  |  |
| **2.2 Professional Qualifications/Memberships** Please provide details of relevant professional qualifications or memberships  |
| **Name of Qualification/Membership** | **Date Achieved/To be taken** | **Method of Study (part-time/full-time/distance learning)** | **Name of Institution/Awarding Body** |
|  |  |  |  |
|   **3 Employment information**  Please give details of any current/previous employment history (with dates) which may support your application. |
| **Employer**  | **Position**  | **Relevant responsibility** eg. Lead on statistical model for health outcomes |
|   |  |  |
| **4 Suitability for the MDataGov Programme** |
|  **Why you?** Describe your motivation to complete an MSc in Data Analytics for Government (you are expected to complete at least 4 optional modules in Data Science). Highlight relevant interests and skills that will help you make a success out of the opportunity (refer to technical knowledge and skills in guidance). [up to 200 words] |
| **Existing Evidence:** Describe where you have provided the drive and initiative to develop an innovative piece of research/work. [up to 100 words] |
| **5 Support of application by Line Manager and DD** |
|  Does your Department support a **full-time**/**part-time** study period? (Delete as appropriate)  |
| **Line Manager (email):** | **Deputy Director**  **(email)**: |
| Line managers - In the space below, please provide authorisation to release applicant for the Data Science MSc, if selected: | DDs – In the space below, please provide confirmation of your support for the applicant to undertake a Data Science MSc: |

**MDataGov sponsored by ONS Data Science Campus**

This note provides guidance on completing an application to receive sponsorship for an MSc in Data Analytics for Government.

**Timetable**

The deadline for applications is 09:00 on 21st July 2017. Sifting will take place in the week that follows. Applicants can apply to the academic institutions in the new MSc Framework from mid-July. Successful applicants will start their study in the 2017-2018 academic year (September 2017).

**Sponsorship Details**

One of the objectives of the Data Science Campus is to build data science capability across government. To do this a cohort of candidates will be selected to receive sponsorship to cover their tuition fees to complete the MDataGov programme. Successful candidates are expected to complete at least 4 optional modules in Data Science. Travel and subsistence related to the study will not be covered by the Data Science Campus, although expenses related to participation in ONS MSc events will be considered.

**Eligibility**

Applications are invited from all public servants (e.g. civil servants, employees of departmental agencies, local authorities, the NHS and regulatory bodies) with the required academic qualifications.

**Commitment**

It is preferred that applicants complete the study period part-time and retain their employment status with their host department. While on the programme, MSc students are expected to participate in the ONS Data Science Campus community. This will include attending virtually and in person events organised on a monthly basis. At these events, the campus full-time Data Scientists and PhD students will be available to support you in your study and projects.

**MSc Dissertation Projects**

Dissertation projects will need to be agreed through discussion with the ONS Data Science Campus. The project will come under one of the Data Science Campus research areas and may also be relevant to your host department.

The five project areas the Data Science Campus are

**1 The Modern Economy**

The economy has changed significantly over the last couple of decades. Many services are now available over the internet: you can book a taxi, or offer your services as a taxi driver; rent out your home with minimum administration; or create your ideal holiday without going to a travel agent. Data bases have become significant assets, driving billion pound businesses. These - and other - types of changes have an impact on how we use our leisure time, on employment and skills, on the structure of the economy, and on other measures of economic health. Data Science is ideally placed to explore and understand these activities, and evaluate their impact on the modern economy.

**2 The UK in a Global Context**

The UK is highly internationally connected. To understand our global context, we need to better understand the international flow of capital, cash, goods, services, energy, people and skills. Research under this stream will look at how Data Science can improve our understanding of the UK's connectedness with the rest of the world, perhaps through studying supply chains, trade networks, finance flows or the international flow of skills and labour.

**3 Society**

How do we use Data Science to understand population characteristics and behaviours but also protect the privacy and confidentiality demanded by the current and future generations?

**4 The Urban and Rural Future**

With the Devolution agenda and the inception of new regional mayors, there is a growing desire for timely, high-quality data and analysis of local and regional areas, to inform targeted regional policies. For example, how could we use satellite images to better understand the differences between regions, and the differences between rural and urban populations within those regions? How can we use data science techniques to develop appropriate indicators of success, or to monitor or inform policy development?

**5 Sustainability**

The UK has been instrumental in agreeing a wide range of international indicators of sustainable development. Research under this theme will explore and develop ways of measuring and analysing performance against these indicators.

**Technical Knowledge and Skills**

Please use the table below to complete section four of the application form:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Statistical techniques(Multiple Regression, Multivariate techniques such as Principal Components Analysis, Time Series Analysis, Generalised Linear Models, etc) |  |
| Digital skills (Application Programme Interface, Open Data, etc) |  |
| Machine learning (Classification, Cluster Analysis, Bayesian Statistics, k- nearest neighbour, etc) |  |
| Coding skills (SAS, R, Python, etc) |  |

**Support of application**

Applicants must have their application supported by their line manager and or Deputy Director (or budget holder equivalent) before applying. Only those applications with this agreement will be considered. The programme will be taught through modules that comprise formal lectures, worked examples, computer workshops and tutorials.

Submit queries to: gss.capability@ons.gov.uk

Submit applications to the same address (only emailed applications will be accepted).