MLDS Center External Research Proposal & Summary

All External Research Applicants must complete an [MLDSC External Researcher Application](#). The following must be submitted for MLDS Center staff to review the application:

1. Complete [MLDSC External Researcher Application](#)
2. Formal Research Proposal
3. Curriculum vitae for all external research applicants
4. Data Request Template
5. Grant Application Checklist if applicable

1. MLDSC External Researcher Application

The application includes the following information:

Contact Information

- Email Address
- Research Applicant Name
- Organization
- Phone Number

Researcher Information

- Research Applicant Background and Qualifications
  Please provide information about the Research Applicant's background, other relevant research, and related interests. The researcher, research team or doctoral student (or advisor) demonstrates expertise in the relevant content area and other related research activities (e.g. data analyses)
- Does your project include additional Research Applicants?
  If so, please be sure to upload curriculum vitae for all Research Applicants.

Proposed Project

- Project Title
- Abstract or Brief Description
- Research Project Question
- Select the relevant MLDS Research Agenda Questions
- Explanation of Cross-Sector
- Benefit to the State of Maryland
  Please describe how the proposed research will inform choices to improve student and workforce outcomes in the State of Maryland. Consider including implications such as broadening the participation of underrepresented groups (e.g. gender, ethnicity, geographic,

etc.), enhancing the infrastructure for research and education, and benefiting and/or informing educational policy and practice.
- ● Estimated Timeline for the Proposed Project
  Timelines for a proposed project should begin with a signed Research and Data Use Agreement. Be sure to include enough room in your timeline for the completion of a background check, set-up and access to the System, and other unanticipated delays.

Available Resources
- ● Please provide details that show the applicant has adequate resources to complete the project in a timely manner. If it is grant funded, please be sure to complete the Grant Application Checklist and upload it as part of this submission.

Proposed Center Output and Further Development
Please provide a description of the proposed Center Output to be completed as part of this work. Additionally, please provide your plans for further development of the Center output. Be sure to include possible publications and presentations in your description. Further developed work occurs after System access is terminated and may only use aggregate, de-identified data that was developed as part of the Center output.
- ● Description of the proposed Center Output
- ● Plans for further development

Supporting Documents
Upload the following documents:
- ● Curriculum Vitae for Research Applicants (up to 5 files)
- ● Formal Research Proposal(1 file)
- ● Data Request Form (1 file)
- ● Grant Application Checklist (1 file, if applicable)

2. Formal Research Proposal

A formal research proposal must be submitted as part of the application. Proposals should be no longer than 15 pages in length excluding references. The formal proposal may take the format most suited to the researcher(s). The formal proposal should expand on and fully explain the information included in the application. A complete research proposal will include the following:
1. A title page with the project title, the research applicant's name(s), the data of submittal;
2. An abstract;
3. A descriptive narrative of the research;
4. Problem or issue under consideration;
5. A detailed explanation of how the research:
   a. Aligns with the MLDS Research Agenda;
   b. Includes an audit or evaluation of State or federal education programs;

        c.   Is cross-sector research; and

        d.   Provides a benefit to the State of Maryland;

6. A clear research question or hypothesis;
7. Description of the methods and procedures proposed;
8. The applicant's available resources;
9. A description of the Center product and plans for further developed work; and
10. A timeline for completing the project.

3. Data Request Template

Once the applicant has determined that the Center has sufficient data for the applicant's intended research, the applicant must identify data for the proposed research using the *Data Request Template*. The data on applicant's *Data Request Template* must be consistent with the research proposal.