The Rising Stars in Data Science workshop is a new initiative from the Center for Data and Computing (CDAC) at the University of Chicago, focusing on celebrating and fast tracking the careers of exceptional data scientists at a critical inflection point in their career: the transition from PhD to postdoctoral scholar, research scientist, or tenure track position. The workshop also aims to increase representation and diversity in data science by providing a platform and a supportive mentoring network to navigate academic careers in data science. Women and underrepresented minorities in computing are especially encouraged to apply.

The two-day, remote research workshop will feature career and research panels, networking and mentoring opportunities, and 30-minute student research talks. Students will gain insights from faculty panels on career development questions such as: how to start your academic career in data science; how to strategically sustain your career through research collaborations, publications, and skill development; and how to form meaningful interdisciplinary collaborations in data science with industry and government partners. Participants will also hear inspiring keynote talks from established, cutting-edge leaders in data science.

Workshop Format:
- Student research talks
- Panels (career development, data science research)
- Keynote address
- 1:1 meetings with faculty members
- Networking within the UChicago data science ecosystem

Application Requirements:
The application is available through InfoReady. If you have not previously used InfoReady, you will be required to create an account in order to submit your application.
- Resume/CV
- Biography (100 words)
- Research talk title
- Research talk abstract (250 words)
- Research statement outlining research goals, potential projects of interest, and long-term career goals (2 pg, standard font at a size 11 or larger)
- Letter of recommendation (1 pg maximum, standard font at a size 11 or larger, a recommendation request will be sent when you add your reference to the application system.)
- Short answer (1,000 characters max per question)
  - What long-term impact do you hope to have with your research on the field of data science?
  - What is your timeline for going on the academic or industry job market?
  - The Center for Data and Computing (CDAC) at UChicago focuses on early-stage, cutting-edge data science research to advance the establishment of this emerging field. In your opinion, what areas of data science research are currently missing or nascent, but the most promising?
  - How do you hope your research will advance issues germane to data science ethics, such as biased datasets, privacy, and the ethical use of data?
  - Please list 1-2 members from the UChicago organizing committee that you would be interested in having a 1:1 discussion with at the workshop.

Eligibility & Guidelines:
- Applicants must be full time graduate students within ~1-2 years of obtaining a PhD.
- Applicants should be pursuing doctoral degrees in computer science, statistics, data science, or a related computational field.
- Applicants both from and outside of the University of Chicago are encouraged to apply.
- Applicants may only submit one application.
- Applicants may have nomination letters from a maximum of 2 faculty members.

Review Criteria:
Proposals will be reviewed by the Rising Stars in Data Science Committee using the following scoring rubric:

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<th>Points</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
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<tr>
<td>0-3</td>
<td><strong>Research Potential:</strong> Overall potential for research excellence, demonstrated by research statement, goals and long-term career goals.</td>
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<td>0-3</td>
<td><strong>Academic Progress:</strong> Academic progress to date, as evidenced by publications and endorsements from their faculty advisor or nominator.</td>
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<td><strong>Computational Background:</strong> Strong computational skills and expertise, ideally with coursework in computer science, statistics, data science, AI or a related field.</td>
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<tr>
<td>0-3</td>
<td><strong>Data Science Commitment:</strong> Experience with or potential for interdisciplinary research that advances research innovation in the fields of data science or artificial intelligence.</td>
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Contact: Please email cdac@uchicago.edu with questions.