



Data Science Team Training

Increasing the data science capacity of the public health workforce

The **Data Science Team Training (DSTT)** program is a team-based, on-the job training program to promote data science upskilling at STLT (state, territory, local, tribal) public health agencies. Learners in the 12-month Data Science Team Training program work collaboratively on a project that addresses a current agency need related to CDC's Data Modernization Initiative (DMI). DMI is at the heart of a national strategy to create integrated, real-time public health data and surveillance that can protect us from any health threat.

Participants will build a set of foundational data science skills and direct their own learning according to their interest and project needs. Through their work on the project component, teams will accelerate real-world progress to address priorities of the data modernization initiative. Past DSTT projects include: implementing electronic case reporting (eCR), developing overdose spike alerts, and producing a variety of data dashboards. The program will begin with orientation January 2022 and conclude with final presentations in December 2022.

Program Components

- License to access online course platform Coursera
- Virtual peer-to-peer learning community
- Monthly webinars led by subject matter experts
- Access to subject matter experts for skill coaching and project guidance
- Additional sponsored training opportunities
- Project-based learning

About the Training

Subject matter experts (SMEs) provide project guidance and high-level coaching to teams throughout the program. SMEs plan the monthly webinars and tailor the content to learner interests. Past topics have included project scoping, exploring tools for data science, using R tutorials, and developing data pipelines.

Course instruction in data science will be conducted using a Massive Open Online Course (MOOCs) format. DSTT has a self-directed learner approach. CSTE will recommend a set of course based on data science competencies, but learners are encouraged to pursue specific topics according to their own interests and project needs.



Eligibility Criteria

- Eligible teams will consist of three-to-five individuals and can be interdisciplinary, but must include at least one health department epidemiologist.
- Participants should anticipate committing four-to-five hours per month to this program, which will be distributed across: engaging with course content, working on projects, and collaborating with peers.
- Applicants should have a project that is ready to be implemented and aligns with the DMI and/or addresses a COVID-19-related priority.
- Teams must provide a letter of support from their agency indicating learners will have adequate time to participate.

Application

Applications will be available on the CSTE website. CSTE will host an informational webinar and Q&A during the application process. Applications will be scored based on applicant interest and commitment, project alignment with DMI priorities, potential for growth in data science skills, and project description and impact on applied epidemiology practice.



**For questions or more information, email dstt@cste.org
or visit our website at www.cste.org/page/dstt**