

UAS Questions Submission Form

Free UAS Questions submission – deadlines, priorities, and requirements

The UAS is the probability-based longitudinal study housed at the Center for Economic and Social Research (CESR) at USC. Currently, the UAS has over 14,000 respondents. The sample size is expected to grow to 20,000 over the next few years. The study collects a wealth of information on its respondents, including the complete Health and Retirement Study questionnaire, several additional cognitive tests, personality (the big five), measures of mental health, disability, employment and occupation, respondents' knowledge of Social Security rules, financial literacy, and much more. The UAS also collects passive data through wearables, such as Fitbits and air quality monitors. Researchers collecting data in the UAS can link newly collected data to the longitudinal data that have been collected already.

Our goal is to offer the UAS as a common platform for data collection for the scientific community. Thanks to a recently awarded grant from the National Institute on Aging, with support from the Social Security Administration, we are able to offer free question time to researchers. We are soliciting proposals four times a year.

Submit a proposal to add questions to a UAS survey. Proposals should be no more than three pages, contain a brief abstract, and describe the aims of the project, the scientific or policy motivation, and the required sample size. Include a draft questionnaire or experimental design as an appendix. Copy the required sections into this form, and attach the full proposal.

Priorities. We do not set a priori limits on the sample size or the length of a questionnaire, and there are no restrictions on the type of proposals or type of data collection that one may propose (including methodological or substantive topics, as well as experiments and longitudinal designs). However, if all else is equal, we will prioritize submissions based on:

- Scientifically meritorious proposals that take advantage of the information that is already being collected in the UAS and of the longitudinal nature of the UAS data.
- Topics that help elucidate factors affecting inequality and health disparities over the life course.
- Shorter questionnaires and/or smaller sample size requirements are preferred, to increase the number of proposals that can be accepted.

Requirements. Researchers whose proposals are accepted and executed in the UAS are required to produce a minimum of one research paper using the data gathered through the award. Additionally, they will be invited to present their findings at the next CIPHER meeting.

Deadlines. March 15, 2024, June 15, 2024, September 15, 2024, and December 15, 2024.

Important: as the UAS aims to be a common platform for advanced research, data collected as part of the award will be shared with the research community. Research teams can request an embargo period of at most two months following the conclusion of the data collection phase. After that, the data will be added to the UAS database and made available for download by any registered UAS data user.

For questions, contact: UAS-l@usc.edu

NAME

EMAIL

AFFILIATION

Submission Instructions

Into the form below, please copy the aims, abstract, requested sample size, and motivation from your proposal. Email the form to UAS-L@USC.EDU and attach the full proposal and questionnaire draft.

Please keep in mind there are a wealth of existing questions in the Understanding America Study, so have a search before submitting at UASdata.USD.edu

AIMS

ABSTRACT

REQUESTED SAMPLE SIZE (and description)

SCIENTIFIC / POLICY MOTIVATION

Email the filled form to UAS-L@USC.EDU. Attach your full proposal, and questionnaire.