 Provisional Accredited Researcher Application

Chapter 5 of Part 5 of the Digital Economy Act (DEA) 2017 facilitates the linking and sharing of datasets held by public authorities (as defined in the Act) for research purposes, across the UK. The provisions aim to broaden the capacity of research to deliver direct and indirect public benefits, including the production of valuable new research insights about UK society and the economy. To provide clarity and transparency about how the research power will operate, the UK Statistics Authority has issued a [Research Code of Practice and Accreditation Criteria](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/digital-economy-act-2017-part-5-codes-of-practice/research-code-of-practice-and-accreditation-criteria) concerning the disclosure, processing, holding or use of personal information under the DEA.

The Code sets out the criteria for the accreditation of processors, research projects and researchers and the Authority has established the [Research Accreditation Panel](https://uksa.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/digitaleconomyact-research-statistics/research-accreditation-panel/) (RAP) to independently accredit each of these.

The information you provide on this application must be accurate, to the best of your knowledge and belief.

Your first name, last name and organisation name (together with those of your supervisor) will be published on the UK Statistics Authority website as a record of Accredited Researchers as required by the DEA. Your name and details will also be used to process your application and to contact you where appropriate. In the event of a suspected breach of the terms of access, your contact details may be disclosed to other persons or organisations involved in any investigation or sanction, including other DEA Accredited Processors, a list of which is published on the UK Statistics Authority website.

Guidance on completing this application is available on the [UK Statistics Authority website](https://uksa.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/DEA_Provisional_Accredited_Researcher_Application_Guidance_v1.1.pdf).

# Criteria against which each application will be considered

*Individuals who do not meet the academic qualifications or research experience criteria to be a full Accredited Researcher (AR), but who have been asked to contribute to a research project led by an Accredited Researcher, may be granted Provisional Accredited Researcher status, subject to meeting the following criteria:*

* *Have successfully completed a Safe Researcher training course run by ONS, or another equivalent course which has been recognised by ONS such as is run by the UK Data Service, the Administrative Data Research UK partners or Her Majesty’s Revenue and Customs (HMRC);*
* *The applicant must agree to their inclusion in a list of all DEA Accredited Researchers and Accredited Research projects, published on the UK Statistics Authority website**[[1]](#footnote-1);*
* *The applicant may only work on Accredited Research projects with the Supervising Accredited Researcher;*
* *An Accredited Researcher must agree to direct, supervise and take responsibility for all work undertaken by the applicant and support their application;*
* *An Accredited Researcher must agree to publish the results of all Accredited Research projects completed by the Provisional Accredited Researcher;*
* *The application must explain how the individual’s skills will contribute to any research projects they work on;*
* *Both the applicant and the Supervising Accredited Researcher must work for the same organisation; and*
* *Both the applicant and the Accredited Researcher must sign and adhere to the Provisional Accredited Researcher Declaration.*

*This accreditation is expected to last for a period of* ***one year****.*

# To be completed by the Applicant:

**Any relevant information in the fields marked \* is mandatory and, if marked**

**\*\* will also be published on the UK Statistics Authority website as a public record of all DEA Accredited Researchers and their Accredited Research projects.**

1. **Your Details:**

*Personal details and contact information of the Provisional Accredited Researcher applicant;*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Last name\*\* |  |
| First name\*\* |  |
| Middle names (if any) |  |
| Work telephone no.\* |  |
| Work email address\* |  |
| Date of Birth\* | Click or tap to enter a date. |

1. **Your Organisation Details:**

*Details (if appropriate) of the organisation you work for;*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Organisation name[[2]](#footnote-2)\*\* |  |
| Organisation Type\* | Choose an item. |
| Organisation address\* |  |
| Organisation postcode\* |  |
| Organisation website |  |

1. **Qualifications:**

*Provide the details of your highest qualification that may be relevant to any research projects you may work on;*

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| --- | --- |
| Highest qualification & subject |  |
| Institution that awarded the qualification |  |

* 1. *Please provide details of the mathematical or statistical components included within your qualification*

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1. **Research Experience:**

*Do you have any previous experience of working with data for statistical/quantitative research?*

*Yes  No*

*If yes, please provide details of your previous experience of working with data for statistical research below including dates and name of the organisations you were working for or studying at.*

1. *Provide the name(s) of the organisation(s) you have worked for or studied at whilst undertaking quantitative research.*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Institution/Organisation Name** | **Start Date (mm/yy)** | **Finish Date (mm/yy)** |
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1. *Provide details of the quantitative research experience you gained working for the organisation(s) listed above, focussing on the statistical techniques you used.*

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1. **Information to Support Application:**

*Include any other information or evidence you feel would help to demonstrate your suitability to be a Provisional Accredited Researcher.*

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1. **Transparency:**

*Under the Digital Economy Act, the UK Statistics Authority requires that Accredited Researchers and their Accredited Research projects are included in a public record published on the Authority’s website and that the project results are published. UK Statistics Authority will only grant exemptions in exceptional circumstances (e.g. where there are security concerns around naming individuals).*

***NB*** *Exemptions relating to individual projects should not be noted here. They should be referred to on the project application form.*

*8.1 Do you agree to your inclusion in the DEA Accredited Researcher public record?*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Yes |  | No |

*8.2 Do you agree to publish the results of any research undertaken as an Accredited Researcher?* ***NB****. Answering yes will not prevent you from asking for an exemption on the project application.*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Yes |  | No |

*8.3 If you have answered ‘No’ to either 8.1 or 8.2, please explain the exceptional circumstances that require an exemption (see the completion guidance for more information).*

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***Please note that refusing to be included in the DEA Accredited Researcher public record, or to publish the results of your research, may result in your application for accreditation being declined.***

# To be completed by the Supervising Accredited Researcher:

1. **Supervisor Details:**

*Personal details and contact information of the Supervising Accredited Researcher for the applicant.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Last name\* |  |
| First name\* |  |
| Middle names (if any) |  |
| Work telephone no.\* |  |
| Work email address\* |  |
| Accredited Researcher Number |  |
| Date of Birth\* | Click or tap to enter a date. |

1. **Supervisor’s Organisation Details:**

*Details of the organisation the supervisor works for;*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Organisation name[[3]](#footnote-3)\* |  |
| Organisation Type\* | Choose an item. |
| Organisation address\* |  |
| Organisation postcode\* |  |
| Organisation website |  |

1. **Applicant Skills:**

*Please explain how the applicant’s skills and/or experience will contribute to any research projects they work on.*

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**Data is at the heart of what we do, so it’s important to us that your data is held and used securely, responsibly and transparently. Read our privacy policy**[**here**](https://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/privacy-policy/privacy-notice/)***.***

**Once completed, please return this application to ONS by email:** [Research.Accreditation@statistics.gov.uk](mailto:Research.Accreditation@statistics.gov.uk).

1. *UK Statistics Authority may grant an exemption to this condition only in exceptional circumstances.* [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. *Individuals who work for more than one organisation should refer to their primary employer in this section.* [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. *Individuals who work for more than one organisation should refer to their primary employer in this section.* [↑](#footnote-ref-3)