

Common Fund Data Ecosystem Training Center Request for Proposal (RFP)

Issued by: Common Fund Data Ecosystem (CFDE) Training Center

Submission Deadline: March 18, 2026, 11:59 p.m. Pacific Standard Time

Submission Link: <https://orausurvey.orau.org/n/communitymodulecontent.aspx>

Overview

The CFDE Training Center seeks to address a gap in accessible and comprehensive training content that effectively highlights CFDE resources for the broader scientific and omics training community. Despite the availability of valuable CFDE resources and data expertise, there is a need for high-quality training module content that promotes collaboration, enhances understanding, and broadens the adoption of CFDE tools and data. The current scope of training content does not fully encompass the diverse needs of trainers, researchers, educators, and practitioners in the omics field, nor does it fully leverage the potential for asynchronous, virtual learning platforms to reach a wider audience. By inviting proposals to develop diverse training module content, the CFDE Training Center aims to expand its e-Learning Dashboard offerings, foster community engagement, and support the dissemination of knowledge within the scientific community.

The CFDE Training Center is seeking proposals from trainers, educators, researchers, and practitioners in the omics training community to provide training module content highlighting CFDE resources. This initiative aims to expand the scope of CFDE training content and promote collaboration within the broader scientific community. Selected proposals will receive funding and access to CFDE resources and data experts to support module content development for inclusion in the [CFDE Training Center e-Learning Dashboard](#).

For the purposes of this Request for Proposal, proposed training module content may include lessons, microlearnings, mini lessons, case studies, code notebooks, etc. Training module content will ultimately reside on a virtual learning platform, the CFDE Training Center e-Learning Dashboard.

Project Period

- April 13, 2026, through August 14, 2026 (4-month duration)

Funding Amount

- Up to \$5,000 per selected training module.

It is anticipated that up to six awards will be given.

Eligibility

- Open to trainers, educators, researchers, and practitioners with expertise in omics-related fields, including graduate students and postdocs.
- Individuals or teams from U.S. academic institutions, research organizations, non-profits, or industry may apply.

Topic Areas

Proposals must be focused on at least one of the following “omics-related” areas and highlight at least two CFDE datasets in that area.

- Spatial omics
- Multi-omics
- Single-cell omics
- Epigenomics
- Genomics
- Transcriptomics
- Proteomics
- Metabolomics
- Lipidomics
- Glycomics
- Others

Project Criteria

The following criteria are **mandatory** and must be addressed in proposals:

1. Highlight at least two CFDE data sources.
2. Align with CFDE principles, including findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable (FAIR) data.
3. Be grounded in instructional system design (e.g. ADDIE, Bloom’s Taxonomy).
4. Include hands-on component(s) (e.g., code notebooks, pre-/post-test, knowledge checks, activities, checklist, etc.).

Key Dates

- February 2026, Request for Proposal Released
- Wednesday, March 18, 2026, 11:59 p.m. Pacific Standard Time, Proposal Submission Deadline
- Friday, April 10, 2026, Notification of Selection
- Weeks of April 13–17, and April 20–24, 2026, 1:1 Kick-Off Meetings for Selected Proposals
- Week of June 7–13, 2026, Mid-Point Check-In
- Week of August 10–14, 2026, Final Presentation of Module

Considerations

- Final training module content will be uploaded to the [CFDE Training Center e-Learning Dashboard](#). Training module content must be developed specifically for upload to the CFDE Training Center e-Learning Dashboard (see Appendix A).
- All module content must be provided to the Training Center by the end of the project period.
- Training Center staff will be responsible for adding the module content to the e-Learning Dashboard. Selected applicants will not be responsible for uploading or maintaining training module content in the e-Learning Dashboard.
- Content must be licensed for public sharing, such as under a Creative Commons license. Content should be free to share and adapt, with credit given to the original author.
- Selected applicants will receive acknowledgement in the e-Learning Dashboard for developing the module content.
- Links to external hosting sites are not allowed.
- Selected applicants must use open-access, public CFDE data in training module content. CFDE has a wide range of omics data available for use or reference in training. Many CFDE Data Coordinating Centers (e.g., GTEX) have open-access summary-level data available. Some CFDE data is considered controlled-access data. Ensure the proposed data is open-access, public CFDE data.
- Training module content must be FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable) as much as possible.

Deliverables

- Module content must meet CFDE Training Center expectations, as outlined in the Recommended Criteria for Submission and as described in this request for proposal.
- You must complete an evaluation survey about your experience at the end of the project period.
- You must provide a Final Presentation of Module Content during a virtual meeting, during the last week of the project period. Presentations should showcase selected final module content.

Payment will be administered after completion and acceptance of final deliverables which includes final module content and completion of evaluation survey.

Throughout the project period, selected applicants are also highly encouraged to attend a virtual Kick-Off meeting with CFDE Training Center staff and provide written response to a Mid-Point Check-In email survey to assess progress of module content development and any support areas needed.

Proposal Application Requirements

Proposal requirements include:

- 1. Title of Module:** Please input the proposed title of training module.
- 2. Trainer/Educator(s) Information**
 - a. Primary Contact Information**
 - i. Name, Email, Phone Number, Organization, Teaching/Training Experience*
 - b. Secondary Contact Information (Optional)**
 - i. Name, Email, Phone Number, Organization, Teaching/Training Experience*
 - c. Additional Contact Information (Optional)**
 - i. Name, Email, Phone Number, Organization, Teaching/Training Experience*
- 3. Abstract (maximum 250 words)**
 - a. A concise summary of proposal.
- 4. Keywords:**
 - a. Type a list of keywords (also known as key phrases or key terms) to characterize applicant's submission. Applicants should specify at least three key words. At least one key word must relate to the Common Fund Data

Ecosystem. Keywords will be utilized for searchability in the CFDE Training Center e-Learning Dashboard.

5. Learning Objectives (minimum 3, maximum 5)

- a. Clearly define the learning objectives and outcomes the participants will achieve.

6. Intended Audience and Level

- a. Audience: *Specify the intended audience (e.g., career level or type – graduate student or educator, field audience – biologists or computer scientists)*
- b. Level: *Specify the intended expertise level of the audience (e.g., Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced)*

7. Estimated Time to Complete

- a. Provide the estimated time participants will need to complete the training module (e.g., 30 minutes for a microlearning video, 2 hours for a case study with accompanying code notebook).

8. Hands-On Components:

- a. Describe proposed hands-on component(s) for the training module.

9. Potential Reach to CFDE learners and the Broader omics research community:

- a. Describe the potential or expected impact of the training module content to CFDE learners.
- b. Describe the potential or expected impact of the training module content to the omics research community.

10. Relevance to the Common Fund Data Ecosystem:

- a. Please describe the proposed training module content’s relevance to CFDE’s goals.

11. Draft Module Timeline:

- a. Provide a development timeline for the training module content, including key milestones.

12. Draft Module Outline (attachment):

- a. Please attach a draft outline of the training module content, including proposed format and supplemental materials.

13. Copyright Statement:

- a. Review the copyright statement and confirm your agreement.

As the submitter, by checking ‘I agree’ and upon submitting this form, I guarantee on behalf of all contacts that the proposed training center content is free from copyright infringements and indemnify the organizers from any claims of copyright violations.

Technical Evaluation Factors

Proposals will be evaluated using the applicant's responses for completeness and accuracy as outlined herein. Proposals will be evaluated in accordance with the technical evaluation factors listed below.

Applicants need to receive a score of at least "Acceptable" on each factor to be eligible for award.

1. Factor 1: Training Design and Methodology (50%)
 - a. A logical and feasible instructional design approach to teaching omics in a way that is meaningful to the target audience.
 - b. Description of target audience for the project and their need for the proposed training module content
 - c. Provides evidence-based methodologies such as adult learning principles or hands-on components.
2. Factor 2: Alignment with CFDE Principles and Goals (20%)
 - a. How this training module content will increase the access, awareness, and utilization of CFDE resources.
3. Factor 3: Potential Reach to CFDE Learners and Broader Omics Community (20%)
 - a. Provide an indication of the potential reach, such as type of learners and stakeholders who may benefit from the training module content, and how they will benefit from access and use of CFDE resources.
 - b. An approach to assess the value of the project.
4. Factor 4: Quality of the Submission (10%)
 - a. The overall quality, including clarity, organization, and attention to detail.

Submission Deadline

Submit a completed application at

<https://orausurvey.orau.org/n/communitymodulecontent.aspx>

by March 18, 2026, 11:59 p.m. Pacific Standard Time.

Planning Resources

- CFDE Training Center: <https://orau.org/cfde-trainingcenter/>
- CFDE Cloud Workspace: <https://cfdeworkspace.org/>
- CFDE Knowledge Center: https://cfdeknowledge.org/r/kc_landing
- CFDE Integration and Coordination Center: <https://cfdeconnect.org/>
- CFDE Workbench: <https://info.cfde.cloud/> and <https://data.cfde.cloud/>
- About CFDE Data Coordinating Centers: <https://orau.org/cfde-trainingcenter/>
- About CFDE: <https://commonfund.nih.gov/dataecosystem>

Questions?

Contact the CFDE Training Center staff at cfde-trainingcenter@orau.org.

Appendix A: CFDE Training Center e-Learning Dashboard

Recommended Criteria for Content Submission

1. Relevance and Alignment

- *Audience Fit*: Tailored to CFDE audiences.
- *CFDE-Related Topic Area*: Training is of interest to CFDE audience covering topics such as omics research and data analysis.

2. Quality and Clarity

- *Instructional Quality*: Purposeful goal, learning objectives, and logical structure.
- *Condition of Content*: Clearly communicated and engaging material.

3. Training Format and Technical Compatibility

- *Learner Engagement*: Hands-on component(s) to provide interactivity and learner practice (i.e., pre/posttest, code notebooks, knowledge checks, checklists, activities, etc.)
- *License and Permissions*: Clearly licensed for reuse or adaptation by CFDE Training Center (i.e. [Creative Commons](#)).
- *Recommended Formats*: The following are recommended formats for to allow for successful uploading into the [CFDE Training Center e-Learning Dashboard](#) (Articulate Reach 360 Learning Management System):
 - SCORM packages
 - Videos
 - Text
 - Files (PDF, MS Word, etc.)
 - Images
 - *Do not link to external hosting sites*
- *Video Settings*: If using videos, compliance with recommended video settings and recording guidelines:

- Use neutral backgrounds to avoid distraction (such as noticeable advertising, personal effects, etc.)
- If showing text or graphics, make sure it can be read in the video (enlarge the presentation screen size if needed)
- Videos have clear audio
- Videos should include Closed Captioning

4. Maintenance and Sustainability

- *Up-to-Date Content:* Content is current or can be updated with minimal effort.
- *Accessibility Best Practices:* Consideration for all learners including captions for videos, high color contrast, alt text for images, etc.