



## REQUEST FOR LETTERS OF INTEREST

The Laura and John Arnold Foundation's (LJAF) core objective is to address our nation's most pressing and persistent challenges using evidence-based, multi-disciplinary approaches. LJAF is seeking Letters of Interest from organizations with innovative ideas to facilitate open science. Specifically, LJAF is interested in ideas for increasing access to the results of scientific research, including access to publications, research data, algorithms, computer code, reagents, and tools.

### **Background information**

Open science can help to accelerate scientific and technological breakthroughs, encourage innovation, and promote economic growth. In order to ensure that taxpayer-funded research is beneficial to society, it is important to establish frameworks that allow scientists to search, access, reuse, and repurpose research results and tools such as findings published in scholarly journals, data, computer code, algorithms, and other resources. Although many fields have begun moving toward open ecosystems, more should be done to improve the transparency and quality of publicly funded research.

### **Selection criteria**

Letters of Interest should address the following criteria:

- Name, title, and institution
- Description of the project that is being proposed and how it will result in increased access to research results
- Description of the scale of the project and anticipated impact on access to scientific research results
- Description of the project timeline, milestones, and metrics for success
- Explanation of whether the proposed project or a similar project was previously attempted in other countries or other industries (Please explain why it was or was not successful in the other context.)
- Description of the key risks of the proposed solution and a mitigation plan
- High-level budget, description of the project team, and organization background (include in Appendix).
- Explanation of whether any software or code that is developed in the course of the project will be open source

### **Submission guidelines**

Proposals must be of domestic importance. Letters of Interest should meet the following guidelines:

- Address each of the selection criteria in no more than **three** pages
- Be single- or double-spaced and use an 11-point font or larger

- Specify the proposed recipient of the grant award, which LJAF generally expects to be a tax-exempt organization (*e.g.*, public charity or governmental unit)
- Specify the amount of funding required to conduct the proposed initiative.

Letters of Interest should be submitted by Dec. 15, 2016, to [OpenScienceLOI@arnoldfoundation.org](mailto:OpenScienceLOI@arnoldfoundation.org). If LJAF determines that your Letter of Interest meets the criteria outlined above, you will be asked to submit a full proposal.

### **Additional information**

LJAF grant funds may only be used for charitable, educational, and/or scientific purposes. LJAF does not fund efforts to influence legislation, to intervene in political elections or campaigns, to promote propaganda, or to conduct voter registration drives. LJAF does not make grants or loans to individuals and does not directly fund scholarships, fellowships, or prizes.