

# PROVISIONS of “Yessenov Data Lab” Program

## I. General provisions.

- 1.1. “Yessenov Data Lab” program (hereinafter – the "Program") is a 4-week online intensive course to train Kazakhstani young scientists/specialists in the basic skills of big data analysis to apply knowledge in further work.
- 1.2. The program is funded by the initiative of the Private foundation "Shakhmardan Yessenov Science and Education Foundation" (hereinafter – "Foundation").
- 1.3. The objective of the program is to develop the skills of young scientists in the field of working with big data, necessary for further independent development in this direction.
- 1.4. In these Provisions, the meaning of the term "sponsorship" is the financing of training, including payment of lecturers, technical and administrative costs.
- 1.5. Participation in the Program is free of charge for the winners. **20 (twenty) Program winners are selected annually amongst the Program contestants.**
- 1.6. Winners of the Program are selected through an open competition. The competition is held 1 (once) a year.
- 1.7. **The program foresees training in big data skills for 4 (four) weeks from June 12 to July 08, 2023, inclusive at “Yessenov Data Lab” Foundation summer school.** The language of training is Russian, with the occasional usage of technical English.

## II. Requirements for program participants.

- 2.1. Program participants can only be citizens of the Republic of Kazakhstan over 18 (eighteen) years old, undergraduate students, graduates, Ph.D. and practicing specialists in the following areas\*:
- natural sciences, mathematics and statistics;
  - information and communication technologies;
  - engineering, manufacturing, and construction industries;
  - health care.

*\* according to the classifier of training areas higher and postgraduate education (dated 17.10.2018)*

- 2.2. When determining Program winner, the following qualities of applicants will be taken into account:

- 2.2.1. high intellectual potential;
- 2.2.2. striving to develop their professional skills;
- 2.2.3. being result-oriented;
- 2.2.4. adaptability.

- 2.3. The applicant must declare and document his/her active professional, scientific, social activities, and the conformity of their professional skills with the following requirements:

- 2.3.1. strong analytical skills;
- 2.3.2. interest and desire to engage in scientific activity and/or develop IT technologies in Kazakhstan;
- 2.3.3. basic knowledge of statistics and linear algebra.

- 2.4. The applicant must have personal equipment (computer/laptop) that meets the following parameters:

- 2.4.1. CPU Intel Core i3 and AMD Ryzen 3 and higher
- 2.4.2. RAM 4 GB and higher.

- 2.5. Have a stable Internet connection with a speed of 50 MBit/second or higher.

**2.6. Will be an advantage:**

- 2.6.1. having an interest in a scientific field;
- 2.6.2. own scientific articles, materials, results of any research, etc.;
- 2.6.3. programming skills;
- 2.6.4. English proficiency of B1 level or higher.

### III. Stages of competitive selection of the Program.

3.1. The competition involves 3 (three) stages of selection, at the end of each of which the best applicants are selected. The announcement of the competition is published on the Foundation's website: [yessenovfoundation.org](http://yessenovfoundation.org) and its social networks.

3.2. To conduct the competition, the Foundation creates an Expert Council, which selects participants based on the results of 3 (three) rounds of the Program competition, described below. The decision of the Expert Council of the Foundation is submitted to the Board of Trustees of the Foundation for consideration.

3.3. The decision of the Board of Trustees of the Foundation is approved by the order of the Foundation in the form of an officially certified list of winners of the Program.

3.4. **First round** – acceptance and evaluation of applications.

3.4.1. Applications are accepted at the Foundation's website: [yessenovfoundation.org](http://yessenovfoundation.org), **from March 10 to April 11, 2023, inclusive.**

**Acceptance of applications will end until April 11, 2023 at 15:00 Astana time (GMT+6). Applications received after the deadline will not be reviewed.**

The Applicant must attach to the application:

1. A copy of ID card;
2. A copy of transcript (all semesters) or a copy of Bachelor degree diploma with transcript (for graduates and specialists);
3. An essay on the following topic "I want to study data analysis to..." (at least 7 sentences and no more than 750 words);
4. CV/Resume
5. A portfolio demonstrating the candidate's achievements in the field of scientific research and/or expressed interests in a particular scientific field, and provide relevant confirmations: *own scientific articles, materials, results of any research, etc;*
6. A certificate confirming good command of the English language *(if available)*.

3.4.2. The application with the whole package of documents should be submitted by filling out an online application on the Foundation's website: [yessenovfoundation.org](http://yessenovfoundation.org).

3.4.3. Submission of documents for the competition means that the applicant shares Program objectives and confirms his/her acceptance of all terms of the competition set forth in these Regulations and is ready to fully comply with them. Candidates can submit their documents in Kazakh, Russian or English.

3.4.4. All applications received by the deadline are reviewed and evaluated by the Foundation staff and independent experts **from April 11 to April 26, 2023, inclusive.**

3.4.5. The lists of successful **second round** candidates are published on the Foundation's website: [yessenovfoundation.org](http://yessenovfoundation.org). At the end of **the first round** no more than 60 (sixty) candidates are selected.

3.5. **Second round** – testing is carried out **from April 27 to May 03, 2023, inclusive.** During the testing, analytical skills of each candidate are assessed.

3.5.1. Mathematics and logic testing. The test consists of 30 (thirty) questions (60 minutes). It takes place in an online format;

3.5.2. Data Analysis Exam. The exam is a simple regression task.

3.5.3. To successfully pass the test, the candidate must have **a basic knowledge** on the following topics:

- 1) matrixes, linear equations;
- 2) graphs (Maths);
- 3) linear regression, mean values, medians;
- 4) plotting of function graphs;
- 5) variables, cycles, conditions, arrays (in any programming language);
- 6) basic knowledge of statistics and probability theory – probability distribution, random value, math expectation, covariance, normal distribution.

3.5.4. The lists of successful third round candidates is published on the Foundation's website. According to the results of the second round, no more than 40 candidates are selected.

3.6. **Third round** – interview.

3.6.1. The third round is held **from May 05 to May 15, 2023, inclusive.**

3.6.2. Participants of the third round are invited for an online interview with the Foundation's expert council. Independent experts evaluate the following during the interview:

- a) analytical skills;
- b) professional skills of candidates;
- c) programming skills and experience (if any);
- d) high intellectual potential;
- e) constant striving to develop their own professional skills;
- f) other

3.6.3. Also, during the interview the qualities of competition applicants will be evaluated through the observation of the following areas:

- a. general communication;
- b. system of values and attitudes, motivation;
- c. general activity;
- d. emotional intelligence;
- e. understanding the requirements of the modern world;
- f. general psychological maturity;
- g. mindset;
- h. willingness of applicants to publish motivational posts on social media.

3.6.4. The duration of the interview is up to 60 (sixty) minutes. At the end of the third round, 20 (twenty) winners are selected.

3.6.5. The Foundation reserves the right not to comment on its decisions to participants of the Competition.

3.6.6. The Foundation makes the final decision **until May 17, 2023**. The list of winners is published on the Foundation's website: [yessenovfoundation.org](http://yessenovfoundation.org).

#### **IV. Sponsorship assignment procedure.**

4.1. Sponsorship is awarded to **20 (twenty) winners** from among the best participants of the Program competition. The number of Program winners may be increased or decreased depending on the number and quality of applications received.

4.2. According to the results of the competitive selection of the Program, the winners undergo free of charge a four-week training at the "Yessenov Data Lab" Foundation summer school (hereinafter – the "YDL") from **June 12 to 08 July, 2023, inclusive**.

4.4. Prior to the start of training at the "Yessenov Data Lab" Foundation summer school, a Sponsorship agreement (hereinafter – "Agreement") is signed between the Foundation and the Program winner.

4.5. The winner of the Program, who has received a training grant, is obliged to comply with the terms of the Sponsorship Agreement concluded with the Foundation, including, but not limited to:

- 1) attend YDL classes according to the schedule and do not miss classes without a valid excuse;
- 2) responsibly perform all tasks, including tasks for independent work within the framework of training in YDL;
- 3) pass the YDL exams on time;
- 4) comply with other YDL obligations and rules;
- 5) disseminate the information about the Foundation in any acceptable form, including in the form of publications in their social networks providing a positive reputation of the Foundation, as well as distribute information and promotional materials provided by the Foundation;
- 6) bring the information to the Foundation about their achievements in professional and supra-professional activities;
- 7) participate in filming, infosessions and other communication activities upon the Foundation's request;
- 8) provide information upon the Foundation's request no later than 3 (three) working days from the receipt of the request to the email specified in the application;
- 9) provide assistance in its activities and programs of the Foundation upon its request;
- 10) provide personal photos, text and video materials (from the place of study/work/ internship / social events, etc.) **(in photos and videos, the appearance and clothing of people should be neat and have a secular character)**, as well as participate in photo and video sessions during the Foundation's events, in order to create success stories on the Foundation's resources and other publications with a motivational purpose for young people in Kazakhstan;
- 11) when fulfilling their obligations under the Contract, the Program winner and the Foundation employees shall refrain from committing, encouraging to commit actions that violate or contribute to

the violation of the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan, including in the field of anti-corruption, shall not pay, offer to pay or allow the payment of any money or value, directly or indirectly, to any persons to influence the actions or decisions of these persons with the purpose of obtaining any unlawful advantages or achieving other unlawful goals.

**4.6. For all questions concerning the Program and (or) the Regulations, please contact the Foundation's authorized person at the following contacts:**

- Gregoriy Lee: [grigoriy.l@yessenovfoundation.org](mailto:grigoriy.l@yessenovfoundation.org), phone number: +7 705 888 5788;
- Irina Grishchenko: [irina.g@yessenovfoundation.org](mailto:irina.g@yessenovfoundation.org), phone number: +7 771 775 1815.

4.7. The Foundation reserves the right to verify the information provided by applicants and/or Program winners by any legal means and exclude any applicant from the competitive selection of the Program (at any stage) and/or Program, if the information does not correspond to reality.

4.8. The Foundation reserves the right not to give clarifications on the motives and reasons for decisions made on applicants for grants of the Program.