

## TRAILS Postdoctoral Fellowship

The [NSF Institute for Trustworthy AI in Law & Society](#) (TRAILS) is seeking talented, highly motivated applicants for multiple postdoctoral fellowship positions at the University of Maryland. Successful candidates will conduct research and scholarship focused on novel approaches to artificial intelligence (AI) that advance trust and trustworthiness, and empowers and educates users.

TRAILS is a joint research, education and outreach institute led by the [University of Maryland](#), [George Washington University](#), and [Morgan State University](#), with additional support coming from [Cornell University](#), the federal government, and private industry and nonprofit organizations.

Funded by a \$20 million award from the National Science Foundation, TRAILS aims to transform the practice of AI from one that is driven primarily by technological innovation to one focused on ethics, human rights, and support for communities whose voices have been marginalized in mainstream AI.



**WHAT:** One or two-year fellowships with flexible start dates in 2023 or early 2024, working with faculty and graduate students who are part of a unique interdisciplinary research community that joins researchers across AI, incorporating insights from algorithm development, systems engineering and architecture, human psychology, sociology, law, science and technology studies, economics, and policy studies.

**WHERE:** The TRAILS fellowships are at the University of Maryland, a top public research university located just outside of Washington, D.C., in College Park, Maryland. *Other TRAILS fellowships are offered at George Washington University; see the TRAILS “Get Involved” section for more details.*

**WHEN:** For full consideration, all application materials should be **submitted by July 31, 2023**. [Go here](#) for details on how to apply.

**COMPENSATION:** The expected salary range is \$70K–\$80K per year, plus competitive benefits.

We encourage applicants with a wide range of backgrounds and life experiences to apply. We are committed to supporting the diversity of TRAILS and to promoting equal opportunity in higher education.

*If you need assistance and/or a reasonable accommodation due to a disability during any part of the application or recruiting process, please send a request via email to [hal3@umd.edu](mailto:hal3@umd.edu) with subject line “Accommodation for TRAILS Postdoctoral Fellowship.”*

As a TRAILS postdoctoral fellow, you will have the opportunity to pursue your own research agenda, interact with the institute's diverse array of researchers, and contribute to ongoing research projects.

Researchers in TRAILS will collaborate extensively with other labs and centers at the University of Maryland, including the [University of Maryland Center for Machine Learning](#), the [Human-Computer Interaction Lab](#), as well as researchers at George Washington University working in the [Institute for Data, Democracy & Politics](#), the [Digital Trade and Data Governance Hub](#), the [Co-Design of Trustworthy AI Systems NSF Research Traineeship](#) program, and Morgan State University's [Center for Equitable AI and Machine Learning Systems](#).

TRAILS is seeking candidates in any area of research related to developing AI techniques, tools, scientific theories, as well as design and policy recommendations that are intended to promote the trustworthiness of AI systems. TRAILS postdoctoral fellows will be mentored by at least two TRAILS faculty members. Applicants whose research interests bridge multiple faculty across different disciplines or institutions will be given preference.

Applicants must have fulfilled their Ph.D. degree requirements, possibly excluding the final submission of their dissertation, prior to joining TRAILS. We encourage candidates with tenure-track academic job offers to apply—with the option of doing a one-year rather than two-year postdoc—provided they can defer their tenure-track start date by at least one year to accept our position.

## RESPONSIBILITIES

Most TRAILS Fellows will co-mentor graduate and undergraduate students with their faculty mentors, and there will be teaching and grant-writing opportunities for fellows who desire them. Fellows will be expected to contribute back to the TRAILS community through career-building activities like organizing the TRAILS seminar series, interacting with organizations like the National Science Foundation, and responding to campus leadership.



*The University of Maryland, College Park, an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer, complies with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations regarding nondiscrimination and affirmative action; all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment. The University is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all persons and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, physical or mental disability, protected veteran status, age, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, creed, marital status, political affiliation, personal appearance, or on the basis of rights secured by the First Amendment, in all aspects of employment, educational programs and activities, and admissions.*