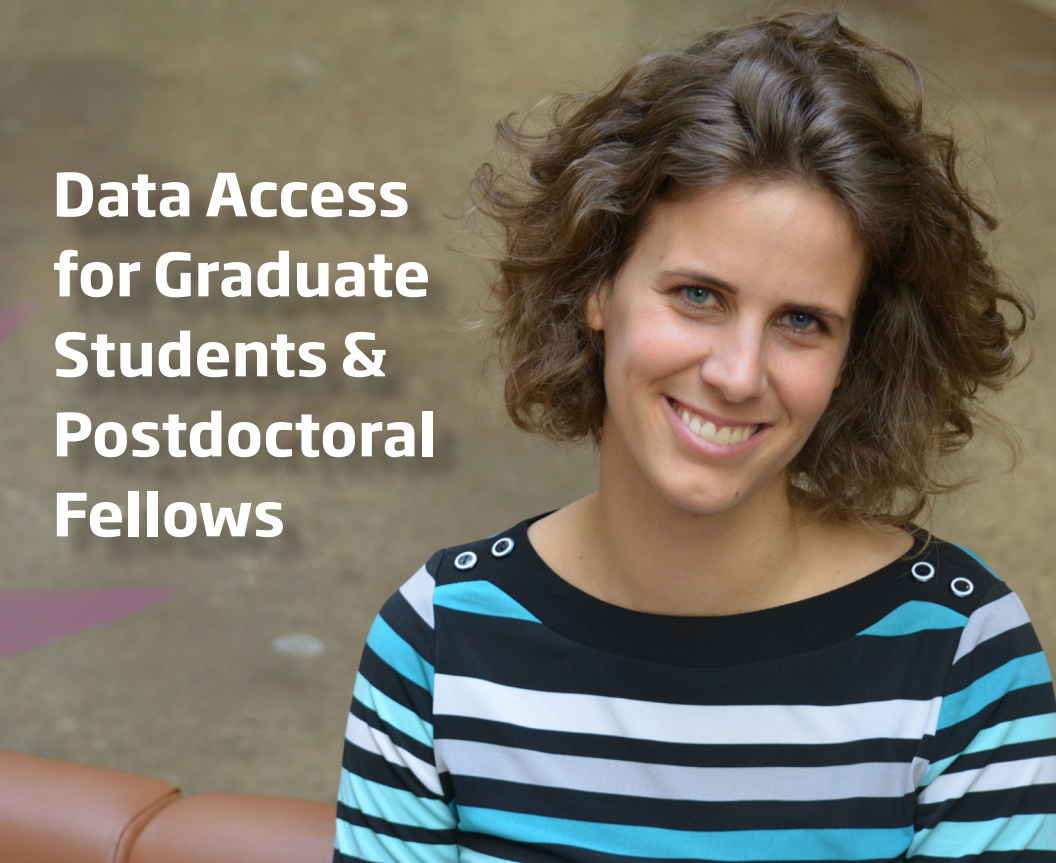


Data Access for Graduate Students & Postdoctoral Fellows



About the CLSA Research Platform

The Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA) is a large, national research platform on health and aging allowing researchers to answer critical questions on the biological, medical, psychological, social, lifestyle and economic aspects of aging, disability and disease. The CLSA follows more than 51,000 men and women who were between the ages of 45 and 85 at recruitment, for 20 years. Through its large sample, detailed data collection and longitudinal design, the CLSA enables research on the complex interplay among health determinants.



Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging
Étude longitudinale canadienne sur le vieillissement



What is special about data access for trainees?

The CLSA provides data to qualifying graduate students and postdoctoral fellows at *no cost*. Trainees conducting research can access data through our usual data access application process, detailed on our website at www.clsa-elcv.ca.

Providing free access to CLSA data to trainees has two objectives:

- To build the capacity of trainees to undertake health-related research; and
- To increase awareness of CLSA's data holdings, and the importance of data quality and privacy, as trainees pursue careers in the health field.

Who can apply?

Trainees enrolled at a recognized institution in Canada can apply to access the data. Canadian trainees based at institutions outside Canada but funded through a Canadian source are also eligible.

A fee waiver will be granted to graduate students and postdoctoral fellows if the CLSA dataset requested will be for the sole use of the graduate student's thesis research or the postdoctoral fellow's research project. For graduate student applications, the primary applicant must be the supervisor and the student must be clearly identified. In order to be eligible for the fee waiver, the postdoctoral fellow must be the primary applicant and the application must be co-signed by their supervisor.

What data are available?

The CLSA platform includes data on health status, diseases, cognition, psychological well-being and mental health, social well-being, economic aspects of aging, physical assessments and blood-based biological markers.

The available data include:

- Questionnaire data on all 51,338 participants
- Comprehensive physical assessment data and blood-based biomarkers on approximately 30,000 participants

The baseline dataset is currently available. Follow-up data collection events will be repeated every three years for 20 years.

How long is the process to obtain the data?

The CLSA has three annual submission deadlines, announced on our website. Once you submit your data access application, you will receive an auto-reply email confirming your submission has been received.

You will be contacted once the review process is complete, or sooner if additional information is required. The Data and Biospecimen Access Committee (DBAC) reviews all applications for the use of CLSA data and biospecimens.

Once your application is approved, a CLSA Access Agreement must be signed between McMaster University and your institution. This agreement outlines the specific uses of data and the CLSA expectations with regard to privacy and confidentiality. This part of the process can take a variable length of time, up to 12 weeks, and is not under the control of the CLSA. Please be aware that this will affect the length of time that it takes for the data to be released. In addition, proof of ethics review of the project from the trainee's institution is required prior to data release.

In general, applicants should be prepared for the process to take **six months** from the date of the submission deadline to receipt of the data.



How to apply

The CLSA data access application process is outlined on the CLSA website (www.clsa-elcv.ca). Please also review the Frequently Asked Questions section.

If you still have questions, or require further information, please contact access@clsa-elcv.ca.

Visit www.clsa-elcv.ca for detailed information about the available data and to apply for access

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