

Research Analytics Mentorship Program (RAMP) 2026-2027

The Research Analytics Mentorship Program (RAMP) matches 3-4 mentees with a single mentor based on self-assessed mentee skillsets, deliverables (see below for more on this component), and mentor expertise. The program runs for 8 months, from September 2026 to April 2027. Mentees are expected to 1) produce a deliverable of their choice and 2) communicate the deliverable to the broader analytics and/or research administration community.

All professionals working in research analytics, research evaluation, or artificial intelligence within research administration are welcome to apply as a mentor or mentee. Mentors are selected based on experience working within related areas.

Program Requirements:

- Application process reviewed by REACH Steering Committee.
- RAMP employs a peer mentoring model where you may have up to 3 additional mentees in your group. Mentees must be willing to help each other work on defined deliverables and be supportive, kind, and respectful of each other's time.
- We will do our best to group mentees by common skillsets and deliverables with an appropriate mentor. To do this, you must be intentional in your application and dedicate real time to your own professional development this coming year. Mentees will need to have written approval from their supervisors to allow the dedication of up to 10 hours each month (see supervisor agreement form).
- The experience will culminate with a deliverable carried out by the mentees. The purpose of this is to ensure quality time spent by both mentors and mentees. It is recommended that this deliverable be jointly useful to the employer to maximize benefits. See *Deliverables* section below for more detail.
- Mentees and mentors are asked to be mindful of the limitations of their job, team, and institution when preparing their application.

Mentor and Mentee Guidelines:

- Mentors
 - At least 2 years experience employed in higher education/ research organization.
 - At least 4 years experience in analytics, evaluation, or AI-related areas.
 - Investment of up to 5 hours each month.
 - Be responsive, kind, and encouraging to your mentees.
 - Be organized and able to help mentees manage timelines, deliverables, and set meetings.
- Mentees
 - Have clear self-awareness and understanding of individual skills and short-term goals (you should be able to answer: what skill(s) do I want to improve this year and what can I do within the limits of my institution towards this?).
 - Investment of up to 10 hours each month and written approval by your supervisor to dedicate this time towards your professional development.
 - Be responsive, kind, and encouraging to your peer mentees, and respectful to your mentor.

- Intend to share your experience or learned abilities through the deliverable in a reasonable amount of time after the program ends.

Timeline and Important Dates: Applications Due July 31, 2025

- Program runs 8 months (September - April)
- RAMP Community Information Calls in July with application review in August
- Mentor/mentee assignments communicated by mid-August
- Welcome orientations and mentor training week of August 24
- September – April: Groups meet virtually 1-2 times/month, with 1:1 meetings as needed
- December: REACH organized check-in(s) with all RAMP participants
- After program: Deliverables shared by mentees (mentees will be asked to report deliverables to REACH program coordinator and complete a feedback survey)

Mentee Deliverable and Dissemination Requirement

Mentees will complete a deliverable and fulfil a dissemination requirement by presenting their work in a webinar, conference session, or other professional forum. Along with their assigned RAMP mentor and (possibly) work supervisors, mentees will consider the list of deliverables below and select one to focus on during their participation in the program. Mentees will also need to select a dissemination pathway to communicate the deliverable.

Together, the deliverable and dissemination activity ensure that mentees develop practical solutions *and* contribute those insights back to the broader community.

1. **Deliverables:** A product, tool, or report that mentees create during RAMP. Deliverables may be completed individually or collaboratively with other mentees. Mentors and mentees will define the scope and format together early in the program. If you have an idea that you are not sure would traditionally be considered a “deliverable”, please work with your mentor to outline your idea and propose it to the RAMP administrators. Examples include but are not limited to:
 - Dashboard/visualization (Power BI, Tableau)
 - Paper (written article, case study, white paper)
 - Process or workflow improvements
 - One-pagers, infographics, or handouts
 - Webpage
 - Other product, tool, or report (e.g. Excel file, PDF report, Power App)

Please be considerate of software and/or time limitations. For example, if your institution only has licensing for Power BI, but you want to learn Tableau, creating a deliverable based on Tableau is not realistic for RAMP. Similarly, if you want to build an AI agent, but your institution currently does not allow the usage of AI, you should consider another deliverable.

2. **Dissemination:** A way to share the deliverable. Mentees will share their project deliverable with a broader audience through a structured communication activity. Sharing may occur during or shortly after RAMP completion, depending on timelines. Acceptable formats include, but are not limited to:
 - Submission to the 2027 Research Analytics Summit or other professional conference such as NCURA, SRAI, NORDP (any presentation format that the conference offers, like poster, lightning talk, concurrent session, workshop is acceptable)

- REACH Casual Friday (REACH-hosted monthly virtual presentations tailored to research analytics community)
- RAMP cohort webinar or other webinar
- Internal institution presentation

All publications and presentations should cite REACH and the RAMP program and should be accomplished during or shortly after the conclusion of RAMP.

Privacy: If you have concerns about sharing institutional data externally and an internal-facing dissemination option is not feasible, contact Hansa Magee and Liz Larimore to discuss alternative dissemination options. Prior to reaching out, mentees should consider options such as limiting dissemination to just their cohort, block out sensitive data, or use dummy data.

Examples of goals and deliverables (to get your creative ideas flowing!):

Deliverable	Dissemination
My supervisor requested that I create a dashboard showing HERD (research expenditures) by department. This Power BI dashboard will show expenditures by attributes such as sponsor, time, PI, etc.	This dashboard will be presented in the spring to our internal Associate Deans of Research group. My supervisor will be in attendance and will sign off.
I am reviewing AI tools in research administration and am preparing a briefing doc for my institution's leadership. I can expand this into a white paper.	I will submit this to NCURA for publication.
I am creating data flows in Power BI for the first time and want to create a set of tables in a star schema that I can use as a "base" for the rest of my reporting. My deliverable will be a completed "backend" infrastructure.	While I cannot share the actual data in these tables, I can share edited screenshots and talk about the development process. I would like to present at the 2027 Research Analytics summit.

Mentee Application

Sign up for one of the Community Information calls:

- July 7, 3:00 – 4:00PM ET – [Click here to register](#)
- July 10, 12:00 – 1:00PM ET – [Click here to register](#)

Apply by July 31 using this link: https://uky.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1Y7X1Uc1z1xO8AK

When you fill out your application, you will need to:

- Have a sense of your current skills and your bandwidth for a RAMP project September – April
- What skill(s) you'd like to work on for RAMP and the appropriate deliverable (it is ok if it changes after you discuss with your mentor/supervisor)
- Goals and what you hope to get out of the RAMP program (to use to help guide mentee-mentor pairings)
- Signed agreement from your supervisor indicating that you can allocate time to RAMP

- How you will disseminate your deliverable (also ok to change as your deliverable matures)

Mentor Application

Sign up for one of the Community Information calls:

- July 7, 3:00 – 4:00PM ET – [Click here to register](#)
- July 10, 12:00 – 1:00PM ET – [Click here to register](#)

Apply by July 31 using this link: https://uky.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1Y7X1Uc1z1xO8AK

When you fill out your application, you will need to:

- Have a sense of your current skills and which you are comfortable to mentor

Forms and Deadlines

- Application (mentor/mentee) July 31
- Group compact – each group will complete one compact, to be submitted by the mentor, that discusses agreed upon communication pathways and meeting schedules. Sept 30
- Intended deliverable and dissemination (submitted by mentee) Oct 31
- Final deliverable and dissemination notification (submitted by mentee) Apr – Aug, 2027
- RAMP evaluation survey (mentor/mentee) May 2027