



The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA.

Office of the Senior Vice President and Provost

August 27, 2026

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to share an opportunity from OpenAI for eligible faculty and postdoctoral researchers to receive complimentary access to ChatGPT for Academic Researchers to support their research.

The program provides one year of free access to OpenAI's advanced models and research tools, including expanded access to deep research, coding, and other capabilities designed to support academic research.

As of August 10, OpenAI has updated the application process in response to strong initial interest in the program. New applicants will be placed on a waitlist while OpenAI reviews more than 13,000 first-wave applications, representing up to 65,000 researcher seats. From eligible applicants, an initial 10,000-seat cohort will be selected through a lottery. Applicants who are not selected for the initial cohort will remain eligible for future selection rounds when applications reopen later this fall.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Who is eligible?

Faculty and postdoctoral researchers in eligible scientific fields at eligible institutions may apply. Applicants must provide a paper posted on arXiv, bioRxiv, or ChemRxiv within the past three years that lists them as an author, along with a brief description of their intended research use.

How do I apply?

Sign in with your OU email, verify your affiliation through SheerID, and complete a short research application. New applicants will be placed on the waitlist.

Is the program free?

Yes. Approved researchers receive a complimentary workspace for 12 months and may invite up to four verified students or collaborators from the same institution. Students can join by invitation but cannot apply independently.

Does OpenAI train its models on my data?

No. Content shared in the ChatGPT for Academic Researchers workspace is not used to train OpenAI's models by default.

Protected Health Information should not be placed in the workspace, as this is not a HIPAA-compliant service.

Learn More

For complete eligibility requirements, application information, and program details:

[ChatGPT for Academic Researchers – OpenAI](#)

Using AI at OU

As you consider using ChatGPT for your research, we also encourage you to review the University of Oklahoma's current AI usage guidelines. OU has developed specific guidance for researchers to help support the responsible use of AI in research and to address considerations related to research data, confidentiality, intellectual property, and other research requirements.

[Review OU's Current AI Usage Guidelines](#)

Sincerely,

André-Denis G. Wright, Ph.D.
Senior Vice President and Provost, Norman Campus

Gary E. Raskob, Ph.D.
Senior Vice President and Provost, OU Health Campus