

GOES-R DataJam Team Leadership FAQs

Do I need to have a team to register for the DataJam?

Nope! Here's how the team formation will work:

During the registration process you will indicate if you would like to be a team lead or not. Those who register as a potential team lead will also provide a brief summary of the rough project idea they have in mind.

Prior to the competition, there will be a scoping day for potential team leads to present 3-minute lightning talks on their project ideas to all participants to encourage them to join their teams. Participants will then discuss the project ideas they are interested in becoming involved in with the potential team leads in breakout rooms. After the scoping day ends, the team creation and brainstorming conversations among participants will continue on Slack.

When a more finalized project idea is established and a team of 3 - 6 total participants is in place, the team lead will submit the entire team member list to the GOES-R DataJam organizers via email at goesr.hackathon@noaa.gov by October 10, 2023.

What is a lightning talk, and how should I prepare for it?

A lightning talk is a very short presentation - in this case, there is a 3 minute time limit before you will be cut off. No slides will be presented, so you only have to prepare by concisely speaking to your points. We recommend practicing your talk ahead of time with a timer.

Some possible points you could include in your lightning talk are:

- Quick introduction: your name, school, and year of college
- Which of the two challenges your project idea falls into
- What your project idea is, how it will use GOES-R data, and why it is important / why participants should join your team
- Any particular skill sets or interests you are seeking from potential team members

Although no slides will be presented during these lightning talks, if you would like to take advantage of a virtual background to reference an image or graphic, or to highlight an important point, that would certainly be allowed.

I did not register as a team lead, but I came up with a project idea and have a team ready to work on it. Can I update my role to team lead?

Absolutely! It's very possible that participants will come up with new project ideas after being inspired by the initial project proposals described during the scoping day. If this happens to you and you build a team of 3 - 6 registered participants (including team lead) to work on that project, you can submit your team member list to the GOES-R DataJam organizers via email at goesr.hackathon@noaa.gov by October 10, 2023.

I registered as a team lead and proposed a project idea, but not enough participants want to join my team. What should I do?

You could explore the other proposed project ideas to see if one is similar to your own and then discuss with that project's team lead if they would like to join forces with you to make a single larger team. If that works out, great! Just note that only one of you can be team lead.

Alternatively, you could join any other team that has a project idea that interests you, but as a team member rather than a team lead.

Another team lead proposed a project idea that is very similar to mine. What should I do?

There are a couple ways you could approach this situation. The first is that you could talk with that other team lead to see if they would like to merge your ideas into a single team project, so long as you keep your total team count between 3 - 6 participants (including the team lead). Note that only one of you can be team lead.

The other possibility is that you stick with the idea you proposed and keep your own separate team. It would be fascinating to see how different teams work toward a similar project idea.

How do I decide who should be on my team?

This really depends on the scope of your project, but you should strive for a well-rounded team.

For example, if your project is coding heavy, you may want to make sure that at least half of the team members have sufficient coding experience so that no single person is stuck doing most of the coding work. But you may also want to include novice or non-coders onto your team if they bring additional skills or knowledge that would be useful, such as those with good visual design or public speaking skills to level up your presentation, or those with a social science background who could help you better understand how your end product might be utilized by certain population groups.

The header features a blue background with a grid pattern. On the left, a stylized globe is partially visible. The text "GOES-R" is written in large, bold, blue capital letters, with a small white circle to its left. To the right of "GOES-R", the words "DataJam" are written in a large, bold, black font, with the "J" and "a" in "Data" and the "J" in "Jam" being significantly larger and more prominent.

GOES-R

DataJam

A visualization project that focuses more on artistic creativity rather than coding proficiency might take advantage of a broad range of skills, both artistic and STEM. Video content creators, social media masters, illustrators, photographers, singers, dancers, musicians, and other such creative types could all contribute their talent to an interesting project idea that merges art and GOES-R data.

If you are looking for participants with particular skill sets or interests to join your team, be sure to mention it during your scoping day lightning talk and/or in the follow-up Slack discussion threads. But don't disregard other skill sets from people who want to join your team as they may contribute to the project with a different perspective.

[I have more questions about the GOES-R DataJam...](#)

Check out the [GOES-R DataJam FAQs](#) to see if your questions are answered there. If not, feel free to reach out to the organizers at goesr.hackathon@noaa.gov.