FAQ For Jan 2025 Pilot

1. **Can you provide details about the research team?**
   This project is funded by the National Science Foundation and developed by a research team at UMBC. The project previously won the DARPA AI Tool Competition for Adult Learning. Please check out this website for details https://caselet.org

2. **Is this practice suitable for learners who are still learning?**
   The Caselet practices are suitable for those students with basic knowledge/skills in machine learning and data science techniques, however, do not yet have extensive opportunity to practice using those skills to solve real-world problems yet. We use the prior knowledge screening to determine whether you have those baseline knowledge and skills to benefit most from the Caselet practices.

3. **What are the key benefits of using Caselets over traditional case studies?**
   - Caselets are bite-sized, self-paced, and designed to focus on critical decision points, making them easier to integrate into a busy schedule.
   - They are auto-graded with immediate and detailed feedback and explanations that help students to learn
   - Each Caselet is grounded in authentic data science problems which are designed to enhance your problem-solving skills with real-world data challenges
   - It is grounded in learning science theory and evidence

4. **What are the strategies for maximizing the benefit from Caselet practices?**
   - Skim the problem overview to identify the main goal.
   - Take time to understand the problem, analyze the data, evaluate options, and reflect on the feedback.
   - Take time to read carefully the feedback given after you submitted the response
   - Search using the integrated search engine when needed.

5. **Will I get paid for participating?**
   Participants who complete all five Caselets will enter a lottery for a chance to win a $50 reward (Retriever Dollar or Amazon Gift Card) for every 10 participants. Additionally, participants will receive a signed certificate and have opportunities to engage in community events focused on Case-based learning.

6. **Is there any prerequisite to participate?**
   Participants must meet the following eligibility criteria:
   - Enrollment in a graduate or undergraduate program at UMBC.
   - At least 18 years old.
   - No prior experience with courses utilizing Caselet.
   - Ability to complete five self-paced online practice sessions scheduled in a week, spaced 24 hours apart
   - Pass the prior knowledge screening based on some criteria.

7. **I completed IS603 with an excellent grade in Fall 2024. Can I join the Caselet team?**
Your prior knowledge from IS603 is a great foundation. If your course did not involve Caselets, you are eligible to participate. The prior knowledge screening will ensure all participants are ready to engage effectively.

8. **Is the work on the Caselet Project limited to January 2025, or can researchers extend their research further if they are interested?**
While the pilot study is focused on Winter Break 2024, participants who demonstrate strong engagement and interest may explore opportunities to extend their involvement in related research projects or studies.

9. **Can you provide training on the Caselet tool?**
Yes, an orientation video will be shared with all enrolled participants to help familiarize them with the Caselet tool and its features.

10. **What is my specific role going to be like?**
After being qualified to participate and sign the consent form, your main role is to complete five self-paced Caselets to practice Data Science Problem Solving skills

11. **Which Python modules should I focus on for Caselet practice?**
While familiarity with basic Python for data analysis (e.g., Pandas, NumPy, and Matplotlib) is helpful for building your skill profile, those skills are not required for caselet.