



Why Join the LSST Corporation?

Overview

The [Vera C. Rubin Observatory](#)'s Legacy Survey of Space and Time (Rubin LSST)

Producing and sharing Big Data

Rubin LSST is a decade-long survey that will produce an unprecedented astronomical data set for studies of the deep and dynamic universe. In just its first year of operations, Rubin LSST will survey more of the universe at optical wavelengths than all previous studies combined. The survey is expected to start in 2024. The data will be available to all US-based investigators and will be made widely accessible through multiple centers.

[The LSST Corporation](#) (LSSTC)

Enabling the use of Big Data for Big Science

LSSTC aims to be a unifying force to develop, support, and advocate for Rubin LSST science and scientists by providing logistical and financial assistance. We are a collaboration of more than 30 [member institutions in the US and throughout the world](#) and we maintain a strong relationship with the Rubin LSST [Science Collaborations](#).

LSSTC works towards developing vital networks of Rubin LSST researchers and educators. We are a 501(c) non-profit institution with a small staff dedicated to raising and deploying funds to support Rubin LSST science, primarily at our member institutions. Corporate operations are mainly supported by annual member institution dues. Activities and priorities are governed by the Institutional Board and the elected Executive Board and strongly guided by the needs of the Rubin LSST Science Collaborations.

Our shared mission is to fulfill the “legacy” of Rubin LSST: *to advance humanity’s understanding of the universe by empowering engagement with Rubin LSST data*. Our approach includes:

- fostering interdisciplinary research at the interface of astronomy, physics, computer science, mathematics, and information science;
- granting resources to and facilitating collaborations between cutting-edge research groups spanning institutions and nations;
- building programs with scientists and institutions that are diverse in size, resources and demographics to develop and support astronomical research at all educational stages.

Our programs simultaneously support excellence in science while broadening participation in Rubin LSST and exposure to the practice of science -- nationwide and across the world.

We invite your institution to join us to realize the vision for the Rubin Observatory as “the People’s Telescope”

Benefits of Membership

LSSTC membership will allow your institution to take a highly visible leadership role in one of the most important astronomical projects of our time. Members benefit from being part of a community of like-minded institutions, working to enhance the scientific return of Rubin LSST through impactful collaborations.

The LSSTC programs listed below support research through a combination of member dues and philanthropic donations.

While serving the broader community with its programs, LSSTC looks for opportunities to provide benefits to its member institutions, including prioritizing engagement of member institutions when considering responses to LSSTC calls for proposals.

[Enabling Science](#) is LSSTC's initiative for community support:

- [The Data Science Fellowship Program](#) is a year-long series of workshops which bring graduate students together for training hosted at LSSTC member institutions;
- The [Undergraduate Program](#) supports students to carry out Rubin LSST-related research and participate in the project's annual "all hands" meeting;
- The [Small Grants Program](#) has supported numerous science schools, workshops, and other research activities.

[LSSTC Interdisciplinary Network for Collaboration and Computing](#)

LINCC is an ambitious initiative to lead community efforts in building software infrastructure for big data astronomy. The first part of the LINCC Framework was recently funded through a multi-million-dollar award from Schmidt Futures.

[LSSTC Catalyst Fellowship Program](#)

Catalyst Fellows hold 3- or 4-year post-doctoral appointments primarily at LSSTC institutions, with the first cohort of five fellows starting in Fall 2022. The program is currently funded by a \$7M award from the Templeton Foundation.