**XPRIZE**®

# PANDEMIC RESPONSE CHALLENGE
# TRAINING & JUDGING ENVIRONMENTS

As part of the Pandemic Response Challenge, teams are expected to utilize separate environments for model development/training vs. evaluation/judging. Explained below are some considerations and options regarding these two environments.

**Training & Development**

Teams are welcome to use the platform and environment of their choice for the development and training of their Phase 1 predictor models. XPRIZE does not impose any restrictions or limitations on how a team approaches this.

For those teams in need of cloud/compute resources for the training of their models, AWS has offered credits which can be applied to a team's existing account for that purpose.

In order to apply for the AWS credits, the team must be a fully registered Pandemic Response Challenge team and must use the credits for the purpose of developing/training the predictor model. If approved, teams will receive $250 worth of AWS credits. To learn more about how to apply for the AWS credits, please email us at pandemicresponse@xprize.org.

Though teams can choose how they configure their environments on AWS, we suggest considering the following instance configuration which should allow the credits to last until December 22:

| Phase | Instance Type | Instance Config Details | Price per Hour |
|-------|---------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| Phase-I | t4g.2xlarge | 8 CPU, 32 GB Mem | $0.2688 per hour |

The above indicated price per hour is for compute only. Storage and bandwidth (data transfer) will add additional costs. This suggested configuration is provided for example purposes only. Teams will need to plan their use of resources and how to apply the AWS credits to their choosing. We also suggest teams to monitor their usage of their AWS resources to ensure they have sufficient resources for their Phase 1 development/training needs.

Please note that you must be a registered AWS user to utilize these credits. The credits are one-time use and nontransferable. Each AWS account has a lifetime limit of 20 discount codes so please be aware of this when making the decision to use the discount codes.

**XPRIZE**®

**Evaluation Sandboxes**

After teams develop, train, and finalize their predictor models, they will load them into their evaluation sandbox on the XPRIZE Data Collaboratives. This sandbox will be used to evaluate the predictor models prior to and throughout the evaluation period and is **NOT** intended for training. Teams can upload newer versions of their model into the sandbox up to the December 22 deadline.

Starting December 22, teams will no longer be able to access their evaluation sandbox and their final models will be run automatically on a recurring basis. Results will be displayed on the leaderboard on the XPRIZE Prize Operations Platform (POP) and will be utilized by judges for quantitative judging.

Following are the specifications of each evaluation sandbox. Teams should remember that their predictor must return a prediction in less than 1 hour for up to 180-days of prediction for up to 300 regions when it is called.
- OS: Ubuntu Bionic 18.04
- CPU: 2
- RAM: 8 Gb

**Phase 2 Training & Evaluation Environments**

We will follow up with details about Phase 2 training environments at a later date.