Key Facts about the Dog Aging Project

Dog Aging Project
Longer, healthier lives. Together.

- The Dog Aging Project is a community science project that relies on the participation of dog owners around the US to help collect data for scientific research intended **to identify the biological and environmental factors that maximize companion dog health and longevity.**
- The project is funded by **grants from the National Institute on Aging,** a part of the National Institutes of Health, by other grants, by private donations, and by corporate sponsorship.
- Dogs of all ages, including purebred and mixed breed dogs as well as healthy dogs and dogs with chronic illness, are invited to join the Dog Aging Project.
- After enrolling their dog, each owner completes the Health and Life Experience Survey, which takes 2-3 hours and collects information about diet, activity, behavior, home environment, health history and more.
- Upon completion of the Health and Life Experience Survey, the dog is officially a member of the Dog Aging Project (DAP) Pack, joining **over 55,000 dogs as of November 2026**. Participants whose dogs are members of the DAP Pack are asked to update their dogs' information annually, and if possible, upload veterinary electronic medical records.
- Currently, **over 29,000 participants have uploaded records**, making them eligible for additional studies, which include genetic analyses, the collection of biological samples for metabolic studies, and participation in TRIAD, a clinical trial of the drug rapamycin.
- **Enrollment in the DAP Pack is ongoing**, and we are especially excited to enroll more puppies, dogs who have not yet been spayed or castrated, dogs from very rural or very urban areas, and dogs living near our partner clinical trial sites. We are also planning additional research cohorts within the DAP Pack, creating new opportunities for participating dogs to contribute to targeted areas of study.
- The project is **based at Tufts University and Texas A&M University** with research team members at many top institutions.
- All canine participants continue to live and play at home with their families. The Dog Aging Project strives to maintain lifelong relationships with dogs enrolled in the study.
- Studying aging in dogs will also help us learn about human health because dogs get many of the same diseases of aging, share our environment, and have a sophisticated health care system comparable to the human health care system.