



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Happy Holidays from CloudResearch!

Dear Participant,

The CloudResearch team wants to wish you a happy holiday season and to say thank you for being a part of the Connect community. Regardless of whether you started with Connect last week or last year, we're glad you help us deliver high data quality to a variety of important research projects every single day.

In this year end newsletter, you will find some helpful tips about how to ensure you are qualified for the widest variety of projects, information about our new templated tasks for AI training, information about ensuring your notifications are turned on, and an update on the participant scoring system we told you about in our last newsletter.

We hope you have a great holiday season and a happy new year!

Thanks,
The CloudResearch Team

Tips to Qualify for More Projects

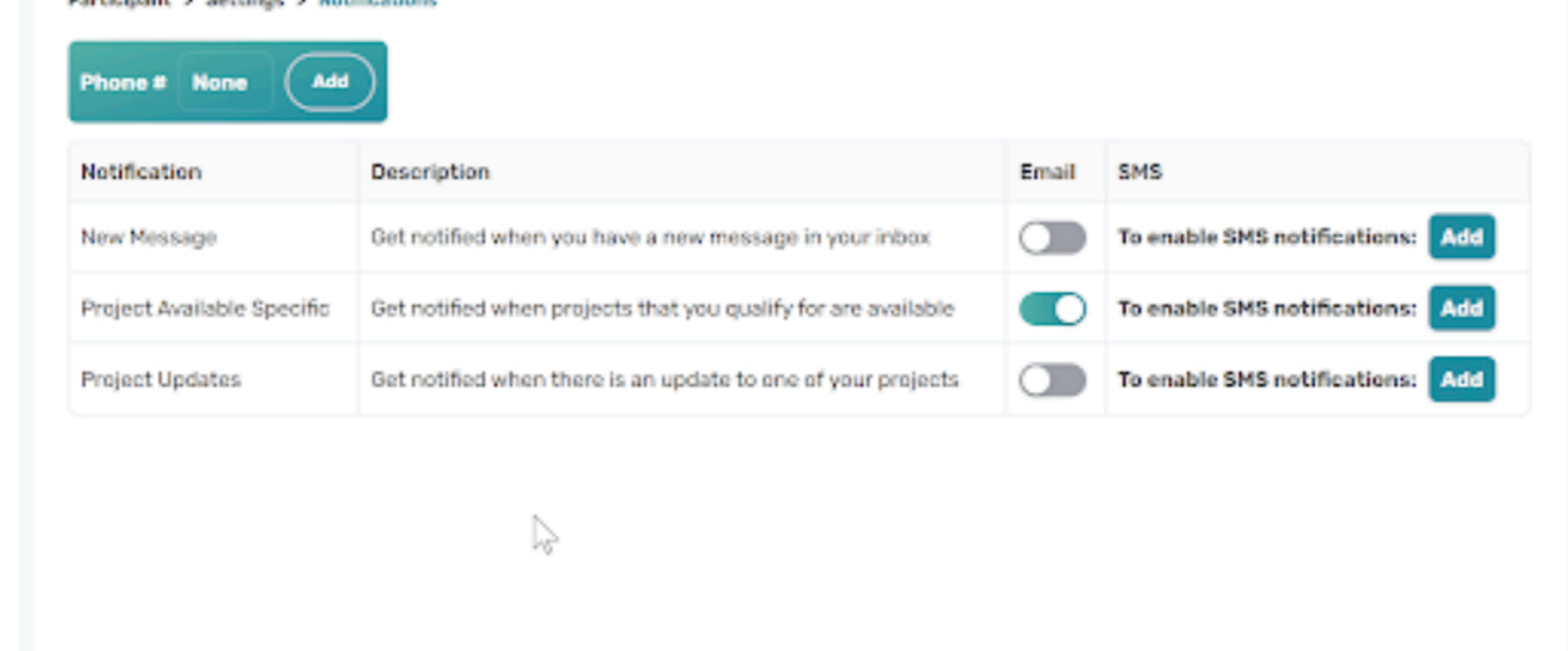
If you enjoy Connect and want to ensure you see all projects you're qualified for, follow these tips:

- **Answer the "About You" questions.** Questions in the "About You" section are used by researchers to target projects toward participants. Answering questions in the "About You" section allows you to qualify for more projects. You don't have to answer any question you're uncomfortable with, but answering more items will generally mean more projects.
- **Updating the "About You" section.** Life happens and details about you may change. Maybe you switch jobs, take up a new hobby, get a raise at work, or start dating someone new. When these or other changes happen, you may want to update information in the "About You" section. There are two ways to do so.

First, you can reach out to our [support team](#). They can unlock qualifications and give you the chance to update your information. Second, in 2024, we will launch an update modal. The modal will periodically ask you to confirm that your core demographic information has not changed. If something has changed, you can update the information in the modal.

- **Turn on notifications.** Within the Settings of your participant account, you have the option to turn on different notifications. In particular, you can opt to receive SMS text notifications when new projects launch that you are eligible for. These text notifications combined with the browser alerts we offer when you have Connect open are among the fastest ways to learn about studies in real-time.

Note: Notifications do not mean you will receive an alert for every project that becomes available to you. Our system prioritizes notifications to participants based on a set of rules and then gradually opens the study to participants who qualify but may not have been notified. This process gives people who are notified a fair chance of taking the project, but it also means some projects may appear on your dashboard even if you did not receive a notification.



- **Provide quality data.** Last quarter, we told you about a participant grading system that we were planning, to help maintain quality on Connect even after people have gone through our initial round of vetting. That system is now rolling out.

In short, people who provide quality data and follow the rules of Connect will maintain a high rating. High ratings are desirable because we will prioritize people with high ratings within our study notifications (i.e., they will get first dibs and be notified more often). It's worth pointing out that this system also allows people a way back if their ratings fall: doing better in projects, following the rules, etc.

Participant Panel at CloudResearch's Conference



We held our annual conference for online research in October. This year, for the first time, we featured a participant panel. The session was moderated by WIRED reporter [Caitlin Harrington](#), who covers the intersection of technology, corporate practices, and workers' rights. During the panel, she asked three randomly recruited Connect participants about their experiences with the site, their reasons for taking part in projects, and what may lead to a better, more enjoyable online experience. We greatly appreciate the participants who took part and Caitlin for taking the time to share the participant perspective with the researchers who use Connect.

Templated Tasks

Most people know that AI is a big deal. Companies are currently investing tons of money in developing large language models like ChatGPT. To build those models, however, requires a lot of data. And, researchers often get data for all kinds of AI applications from crowdsourcing sites like Connect.

A few months ago, we created a task templating system directly on Connect. This system, which has been in a private beta mode but will be opening to all researchers in 2024, allows researchers gathering training data or conducting other small data tasks to build their projects directly on Connect and then launch them to high-quality participants, like you.

To make these tasks easier to complete, we are working on a streamlined workflow and removing bugs. The system currently allows anyone who wants to complete these kinds of tasks to accept the project and then complete many tasks without having to submit each one and then accept a new project to complete another one. It also allows participants to skip tasks. As the system is used by more researchers, we will continue to look for ways to improve the participant experience.

Reddit Forum



Finally, if you're new to Connect or haven't checked it out yet, don't forget about our Connect Reddit space. It's a place where Connect community members can talk, troubleshoot issues, and get help from CloudResearch employees who moderate the site.

Check out the Reddit board [here](#).