Dr. Nima Mosammaparast is originally from Tehran, Iran. When he was seven years old, his family fled Iran due to religious discrimination, eventually coming to live in upstate New York. He attended the University of Rochester, initially thinking that he would become an engineer like his father and many others in his family. A biochemistry class changed his mind, and he eventually majored in molecular biology. He then ventured south to the University of Virginia to enroll in its MD-PhD program. One of his mentors in Virginia introduced him to laboratory medicine, and after graduating in 2006, he started a research residency in clinical pathology at Brigham & Women's hospital in Boston. Having lost two cousins to leukemia, he decided to focus his efforts on understanding how cancer cells respond to chemotherapy, which is what his lab at Washington University School of Medicine continues to study.

During a fateful trip to Chicago in 2009, he met Dr. Sara Serati, an optometrist, through mutual friends. After too many back-and-forth flights over three years, they were married in 2012. That same year, they decided to call St. Louis their new home, and enjoy spending time discovering hole-in-the-wall restaurants and cafés around the area, as well as exploring the outdoors when the weather permits. In 2015 they welcomed their daughter Ida, who is growing up to be more outspoken and rambunctious than either of her parents. Besides spending time with his family, Nima enjoys reading historical fiction and the occasional horror movie and has recently become a more avid runner.