



## REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

### *The American Diabetes Association COVID-19 and Diabetes Research Award*

The American Diabetes Association is requesting applications for research focused on the impact of diabetes on COVID-19 and the impact of COVID-19 on diabetes and its complications.

Recent clinical experience has shown that people with diabetes are at higher risk of death from COVID-19 and that COVID-19 drives an increased risk of hyperglycemia and other complications in those with and without diabetes. This is in addition to the risk due to advanced age and chronic disease. Both the biological mechanisms underlying this risk and how to minimize it remain poorly understood. There is an urgent need for research to understand the impact of diabetes on COVID-19 and vice versa. This is true at a basic and clinical level.

The goal of this RFA is to use a rapid application and review process to identify at least 10 grants of up to \$100,000 each in this area and of high scientific merit for immediate funding.

**Expedited Deadline:** The *ADA COVID-19 and Diabetes Research Award* **online application deadline is 5pm ET on May 22, 2020**, for funding beginning **July 1, 2020**.

**Application procedure:** Application instructions and forms are available on the [ADA COVID-19 and Diabetes Research Award](#) website. The main text of the application will be a two-page application to provide all necessary study components (Aims, Significance, Preliminary data, Research Plan, Expected Actionable Outcomes) with a one-page listing of critical references, PI Biosketch, and budget form.

**Study Design:** Applications proposing COVID-19 impact on diabetes and its complications utilizing basic, clinical or translational research will be considered.

For the purposes of this award, basic research is defined as investigation into the fundamental cellular, molecular and biochemical mechanisms underlying the development, detection, treatment and management of COVID-19 in diabetes and its complications.

Clinical research is defined as research where the effect of COVID-19 on diabetes and its complications is evaluated, and includes therapeutic interventions, health services/care delivery research and epidemiological research aimed at identifying the distribution and determinants of disease in a population.

Translational research supported through this mechanism will typically involve expertise, collaboration and engagement across disciplines, and falls into two broad categories, (1) translating basic biological discoveries on COVID-19 on diabetes and its complications from the laboratory into clinical applications that improve human health, and (2) accelerating the translation of clinical advances from research on COVID-19 on diabetes and its complications to the community setting or enhancing the adoption of best practices in patient care

Each investigator must apply using the American Diabetes Association's online Grant Management Site.

**Support:** Projects can request up to \$100,000 in total cost over a twelve-month period. Award funds must be used for research activities in the described project and are to be divided between the salary of the PI/collaborating investigator(s) and research support. PI Salary and fringe benefits support is allowed up to 20% of total requested amount. Indirect costs cannot exceed 10% of requested direct costs.

**Review Criteria:** Applications will be evaluated on the potential of the project to impact knowledge of COVID-19 on diabetes and its ultimate translation to advance prevention, intervention or treatment. Originality and degree of scientific rigor in study design, scientific precision and potential clinical impact of the project, applicability to the scope of the RFA and the potential impact on advancing the understanding diabetes and COVID-19 are all important to consider. Relevant experience of the Principal Investigator, availability of the appropriate facilities and resources, the ability of the investigator/site to recruit the patient population, access to, and availability of, data sources, samples and study medications (if applicable) are relevant. The specific timeline for progress of enrollment, data analyses and/or other major project milestones and an appropriate budget allowing for the completion of the proposed work need to be stated.

#### **Eligibility Requirements, Terms and Conditions:**

- **Applicant Eligibility:** Applicant must hold a PhD, MD, MD/PhD degree or equivalent health- or science-related degree and possess the necessary skills and training to carry out the proposed work.

Awards are limited to institutions within the United States and U.S. possessions. All investigators must be legally authorized to work in the U.S. Institutional confirmation of permission to work within the U.S. will be required for all applicants at the time of application submission.

Applicants must agree to devote sufficient time and effort to research to accomplish the aims of the proposal during the period of ADA funding.

One person must be specified as the Principal Investigator; multiple PIs/co-PIs are not permitted.

Individuals may currently hold an ADA Award.

At the time of application submission, applicants must hold a full-time faculty position or the equivalent at a U.S.-based university, university-affiliated research institution, or other non-profit research institution.

- **Open Data and Resource Sharing:** All data resulting from ADA-funded research that can be shared without compromising human subject protections must be shared to an approved open data repository within 6 months of publication or within 18 months of the conclusion of the funding period, if the study remains unpublished.
- **Institutional Assurances:** The Association requires IRB and IACUC assurances for human and animal subjects, respectively, if these are used in the funded research experiments/protocols. Funded applicants must provide IRB and/or IACUC approval and submit documentation of approval(s) at the time of application or by the start date of the award (July 1, 2020). Award activation is contingent upon submission of proof of approval.

- **Confirmation of Study Drug:** If the proposed research requires drug or drug placebo, the investigator must demonstrate having access to the needed research supplies by submitting documentation at the time of application or by the start date of the award (July 1, 2020). Award activation is contingent upon submission of proof of drug supply.
- **Association Membership:** Award recipients are required to become members of and/or maintain membership in the Professional Section of the American Diabetes Association for the duration of the award. Membership fees cannot be paid with Association direct cost funds. If selected for funding, the PI must submit proof of Association membership prior to award activation.
- **Award Payments:** Award funds will be paid to the recipient's institution in two payments.
- **Final Report:** Following completion of the award term, a cumulative Final Report, which includes both a scientific progress report and a financial reconciliation, is due within 30 days after the grant expiration date. Any unexpended funds at the end of the final year must be returned. Any claims not brought within 6 months of the award end date shall be deemed waived. If the complete Final Report is not received by the due date, the grantee will not be eligible to apply for any future Association awards until the obligations for the expired award are complete. Additionally, if the grantee has other active Association awards, those awards will be placed on hold until the proper Final Report is received. Excessive violations of Association guidelines can result in ineligibility to apply for future Association awards for up to two years.

Expenses incurred after the award end-date may not be charged to the ADA.

- **Funding Acknowledgement:** Acknowledgment of support for *The American Diabetes Association COVID-19 and Diabetes Research Award* must be cited when findings are reported, or publicity is given to the work.

**Questions about this request for applications should be addressed to:**  
[grantquestions@diabetes.org](mailto:grantquestions@diabetes.org)