The **UAB K12 Career Development Program** prepares early career faculty with a research or health profession doctorate for an independent career investigating heart, lung, blood, or sleep disorders in persons living with HIV. Applicants may propose projects grounded in basic, translational, clinical, epidemiologic, behavioral or community-based research methods for funding through this mechanism. The program provides mentorship, relevant training, and educational opportunities, salary, and travel support to prepare scholars for an independent research career.

Letter of Intent

Submit a Letter of Intent by March 15, 2023, before 5 pm CT via the submission link on the K12 website.

The two components below must be uploaded as a single PDF.

- Two-page Summary of proposed research project (details online)
 - This summary should include: 1) Project title, 2) Mentors (at least two, one with HIV expertise and one with NHBLI-disease-related expertise) with their qualifications, 3) Brief summary of a Career development plan (coursework, degree programs (if relevant)), 4) A brief description of the proposed research, and 5) Area of primary and/or secondary emphasis (i.e. heart, lung, blood sleep research, health disparities)
- NIH Biosketch (for Applicant only)

Full Applications

Full applications must include the following components in an NIH-style application. Scholars selected to submit full applications will be notified by email with instructions on the submission process.

- Abstract; no more than 30 lines (1 page)
- Proposed Specific Aims (1 page) and Research Plan (limited to 5 pages)
- Individual Career Development Plan signed by the Applicant and two primary Mentors (limited to 3 pages)
- Letters of Support from two primary Mentors
- Letter of Support from the Applicant's Department or Division Chair committing to the provision of 75% protected time for career development activities for the duration of the award (2 years)
- NIH Biosketches for the Applicant and the 2 Primary Mentors
- Letters of Support from any other Collaborators or Mentors
- NIH budget form (<u>Form Page 4</u>) with justification, not to exceed \$100,000 annually for up to two years in direct costs for the Full Scholars Program.

Review Criteria

The full written proposal for each applicant will be reviewed by a panel composed of members of the Executive Committee, Internal Advisory Committee, stakeholder representatives, and senior faculty content experts who will score the applications using an NIH-style scoring system and provide written critiques. If the response for applications is high, applicants may be asked to participate in a 45-minute interview with members of the Executive Committee to assess their scientific proposal, their career commitment, and the quality of the mentorship relationship at the time of application. At each phase of selection, candidates will be scored with respect to the following criteria:

- Potential as an independent researcher focused on heart, lung, blood or sleep-related diseases in HIV;
- The likelihood that the career development plan will contribute significantly to the candidate's development;
- Scientific merit of the proposed research and relevance to heart, lung, blood, and sleep in HIV;
- Quality of the mentoring relationship, qualifications of the mentor, and evidence of mentoring success

Information Session: TBD Letter of Intent Due: March 15, 2023 Invitation to Submit Full Application: TBD Full Application Due: May 15, 2023 Notification Date: June 1, 2023 Project Start: July 1, 2023