

# UAB MEDICINE

## Comprehensive Diabetes Center

### UAB Comprehensive Diabetes Center Seed Funding Program for Precision Diabetes 2026 Request for Applications

The UAB Comprehensive Diabetes Center (UCDC) invites faculty to submit applications for the 2026 Seed Funding program focused on Precision Diabetes.

**Research Focus:** Diabetes continues to grow as a worldwide epidemic and as a challenge for Alabama and Birmingham. However, the disease is not homogenous (even beyond Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes) and rather encompasses many chronic metabolic disorders characterized by elevated blood glucose. The underlying metabolic, genetic, immunologic and environmental reason for the difference in manifestation, progression, outcome and/or response to treatment for many of these disorders is not well understood. Therefore, the purpose of this year's award is to allow UAB faculty to initiate novel diabetes research projects that address these questions and help shed light on any of these aspects leading to a better understanding of the disease and ultimately a more personalized treatment of diabetes. Basic, translational and clinical projects will be considered. It is expected that the provided seed funding will be utilized to obtain sufficient data to apply for significant extramural funding.

**Eligibility:** Funding is available to full-time UAB faculty members at any rank, but a strong track record of publication and funding is desirable.

**Funding and Review Process:** The UCDC Seed Funding Program will fund studies at up to \$50,000 for one year. Because the scope and nature of the applications may vary, the size of the award may also vary. Applications will be selected for funding based on merit using NIH study section criteria. Projects will be favored if consistent with the focus of this RFA and likely to lead to future NIH funding; multiple PIs are admissible and collaborative applications from different schools and/or different UWIRCs are encouraged. Funding for selected projects is expected to begin **September 1, 2026**.

**Application Procedure:** Submit the following information in one PDF file through the [online submission form](#) by **5 p.m. Friday, June 19, 2026**:

- (i) Research Plan (limited to 5 pages, excluding references) should include the following paragraphs: Specific Aims, Significance & Innovation, Approach (including any preliminary data and research design), Multiple PI plan where applicable and a Plan for future extramural funding applications.
- (ii) Budget (PI salary up to \$15K is permitted), Budget Justification, Current and Pending Support and declaration if this project is under consideration via any other external or internal funding mechanism.
- (iii) NIH Biosketch (limit 4 pages)

**Acceptance:** Acceptance of seed funding will require the PI to adhere to a plan for submitting grants to extramural funding agencies, to present a research seminar at study completion, and to report research progress to UCDC Director Anath Shalev, M.D.

**Questions:** For questions about eligibility or application submissions, contact UCDC Administrator Tiffany Grimes at [tdgrimes1@uabmc.edu](mailto:tdgrimes1@uabmc.edu) (CC: Amy Richardson, [amyrichardson@uabmc.edu](mailto:amyrichardson@uabmc.edu)) or 205-996-4777.