



Applications Being Accepted for Pre-doctoral Training in Obesity-Related Research

We are pleased to announce the potential availability of four pre-doctoral fellowship positions for doctoral students wishing to train in the general area of obesity. (Availability is contingent upon receipt of the T32 award from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute [NHLBI].) We seek motivated applicants with a desire to succeed and who can work in a team environment. **Applications are due by 5 p.m., Monday, June 1, 2026. Funding will begin August 1, 2026.**

This is an ideal opportunity to obtain the scientific publications and intellectual development that will lay the foundation for future successful professional development as an independent scientist. Applied experience is provided via co-mentorship by UAB's well-established NIH-funded investigators.

Eligibility Criteria

- Be a doctoral student in good standing from any UAB graduate program.
- Have a research emphasis on obesity, particularly as it relates to cardiovascular diseases.
- Be midway through your first year in a doctoral program and prepared to enter your second year of training in August.
- Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident.
- Express a long-term plan and expectation to work as an independent investigator in obesity research.
- [Commit to meet all obligations of the training program.](#)

Application Requirements

- Training goals and research objectives. Together, the student and mentor must prepare a document outlining training goals and research objectives. This document should include a statement of support from the mentor regarding their willingness to work with the trainee and their evaluation of the trainee's potential (two-page limit).
- Student's curriculum vitae.

- Two letters of reference addressed to the T32 program directors. The letters should be from people who know the applicant (not from the proposed mentor) and can accurately comment on their qualifications for this program.
- [A completed application](#).
- The [Obligations and Program Requirements Acceptance document](#) signed by the student, primary mentor, and the student's PhD program director.

Support

Full stipend coverage, tuition, travel allowance, training expense funds, and an intensive program of mentorship and training.

Informational Meeting

There will be a meeting for potential applicants and mentors on April 20, 2026, at 2:30 p.m. [via Zoom](#).

Questions?

[Email Elizabeth Smith](#), program director, Nutrition Obesity Research Center.

Leadership Team

Program Director: Barbara A. Gower, Ph.D.

Associate Director for Professional and Career Development: Paula Chandler-Laney, Ph.D.

Docent for Clinical Science: Laura Q. Rogers, M.D.

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