

MEMORANDUM

TO: UAB FACULTY & LAKESHORE STAFF
FROM: Jim Rimmer, PhD, Director – UAB-Lakeshore Foundation Research Collaborative
Jeff Underwood, President – Lakeshore Foundation
SUBJECT: RFA – Exercise/Nutrition Pilot Feasibility (P/F) Studies
DATE: October 5, 2015

Lakeshore Foundation will fund up to 4 exercise and/or nutrition P/F studies at up to \$50,000/year. A second year of funding is possible through a competitive renewal process.

Research Focus: The P/F studies may focus on *any area of research related to exercise and/or nutrition for children or adults with a physical disability* and are designed to provide initial project support for new investigators; allow exploration of possible innovative new directions for established investigators who are interested in applying their science/skills to disability; and stimulate investigators from other areas of science to use their expertise to conduct exercise/nutrition research related to physical disability.

Eligibility: P/F funding is intended to support full-time UAB faculty members or affiliates of the UAB-LF Research Advisory Committee who are new investigators without current or past NIH research project support (those below the rank of Associate Professor); or established investigators who are interested in applying their expertise to disability or developing an innovative idea representing a significant departure from ongoing research interests and focusing their work on disability. Lakeshore Foundation program staff may propose a P/F study to a UAB researcher and work closely with the investigator during and after the proposal submission. P/F awards may be made to post-doctoral fellows but in general, will only be competitive when such individuals are preparing to transition to a faculty position at UAB. Post-doctoral fellows wishing to apply are strongly encouraged to meet simultaneously with their UAB faculty mentor and/or the UAB-LF Research Director prior to submitting a proposal. PI's (Postdocs, Instructors and Asst. Profs.) must identify a senior faculty mentor who has a strong record of NIH funding as a PI in an area related to the proposed research and who will agree to provide guidance throughout the conduct of the proposed study. Priority will be given to applications that demonstrate close relevance to Lakeshore Foundation's mission (www.lakeshore.org) and likelihood of future external funding.

Procedure: Please provide a title, PI and a single-spaced, 11pt Arial Font, abstract, (<500 words) of intent that highlight the background and significance, hypothesis, specific aims, experimental design and procedures of the project including relevant statistical analyses. Please submit via the UAB-Lakeshore webpage, <http://uab.edu/shp/lakeshore> by **Friday, November 6th, 2015**. The review committee (composed of three UAB researchers with no COI, three Lakeshore consumer research advisory members, and three Lakeshore program staff) will review all abstracts and select the most competitive for development of a five-page application plus supporting materials for a final round of selection. The full application will be due in mid-December. Specific instructions will be provided to those whose abstracts are selected. Investigators are encouraged to contact Dr. Jim Rimmer (jrimmer@uab.edu, 975-9010) or Jeff Underwood (jeffu@lakeshore.org; 313-7475) to determine their eligibility and the appropriateness of their project. **Acceptance of funding will indicate agreement to submit a grant application for extramural funding to continue the project**, and to provide written progress reports at 6-month intervals.



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