

# 2024 Pilot and Feasibility Program

## University of Colorado Diabetes Research Center (DRC)

**SUBJECT:** Request for Applications for the DRC Pilot and Feasibility Awards

**FROM:** Jane EB Reusch, MD, and Paul Rozance, MD, Co-Directors of the Pilot and Feasibility Program, University of Colorado Diabetes Research Center

**Letter of Intent (LOI) DUE: Friday, December 1, 2023, by 5:00 pm MST**

**Full Application DUE: Tuesday, January 16, 2024, by 5:00 pm MST**

**Purpose of Awards:** The UC Denver DRC Pilot and Feasibility Program funds diabetes researchers distributed across the spectrum of basic science, translational, clinical, and health disparities research who investigate Type One, Type Two, or Gestational Diabetes and associated complications. This program is a key element in recruiting and training promising diabetes research scientists.

**Duration of Awards:** One year with a second year of funding contingent on acceptable progress in year 1.

**Funds Available:** \$50,000 per year, up to two years (\$100,000 total).

**Eligibility:** CU-AMC or DRC affiliated institutions full-time MD, MD-PhD, PhD, DO and PharmD Faculty. **Candidates must hold a Faculty position on the Award start date of April 1, 2024.**

The primary objective of the University of Colorado DRC Pilot and Feasibility Program is to fund young investigators. As such, applications from junior faculty will be given priority. Applicants who hold or have previously held NIH R01, VA Merit, DOD Project Award, or analogous research awards in diabetes-related areas as a principal investigator are not eligible.

Applications will be considered from established investigators if those investigators are new to diabetes research OR if those investigators propose innovative, high-risk projects that would not be competitive through the usual granting agencies. In the latter categories, priority will be given to interdisciplinary projects. These applicants may have previously held an NIH R01, VA Merit, DOD Project Award, or analogous research awards as long as it was not in the field of diabetes or related to their proposed innovative, high-risk projects. Out of respect for investigators' time, it is recommended that PIs reach out to Drs. Rozance and Reusch to discuss innovative, high-risk projects.

Investigators who hold NIH K, R21, R03 awards, and/or career development or young faculty awards from JDRF, ADA or AHA are encouraged to apply.

Individuals from Populations Underrepresented in the Extramural Scientific Workforce as defined by the NIH (<https://diversity.nih.gov/about-us/population-underrepresented>)

**Funding Support:** Project support not including subcontracts or tuition

# Instructions

## Letter of Intent (LOI)

The LOI must be received by **Friday, December 1, 2023, by 5:00 pm Mountain Time.**

Please indicate your intent to apply by submitting the online LOI form on the [DRC Pilot and Feasibility webpage](#). Upon submission, you will receive a confirmation email with a unique link to submit your full application. **Applicants should also plan to attend one of three informational zoom sessions. Dates and times to be added to the DRC P&F webpage linked above.**

The following information will be needed to complete the LOI form:

- Title of your project
- Five key words related to your project
- An indication of whether you identify as an individual from groups underrepresented in health-related sciences on a national basis.
- The names of two or three external reviewers who could provide an unbiased critique of your proposal.

## Full Application

The Full Application should be assembled into a single pdf file and submitted to the online portal by **Tuesday, January 16, 2024, by 5:00 pm Mountain Time.** The Letter of Intent (LOI) confirmation email will contain a unique link to submit your full application.

The Application should contain:

- The completed DRC Facepage as the first page of the application ([download the Facepage template from the P&F website](#))
- Cover letter from the applicant (1 page) - Describe career goals and how the DRC Pilot Award will help in attaining them.
- NIH Biosketch for the applicant.
- Budget for direct costs for two years (\$50,000 per year direct costs, indirect costs will not be reimbursed)
- Budget justification (1 page) - Include a detailed budget request for the award with all costs justified. The award can be used for salary support and/or project support. It may not be used for subcontracts or tuition.
- Career development plan (2 pages, single spaced).
- Specific aims and research plan (5 pages total, single spaced) - A complete description of the applicant's ongoing and proposed work must be included. Separate sections should be devoted to Specific Aims and Hypotheses, Background and Significance, and Experimental Design and Methods. Preliminary Studies can be included in any of the sections. All figures, tables and other relevant data should be included within the body of the proposal (i.e., no appendices). **The importance of the proposed work, its relevance to diabetes, and potential for generating further funded research should be included.** Explanation of interdisciplinary approaches, innovative ideas and use of technological approaches within the research should be provided when applicable. Additionally, please describe whether the project will utilize any [DRC core resources](#).
- List of cited references (no page limit).
- Letters of support from:
  - For new investigators, their scientific advisor (1 page) - Describe the mentor's role during the period of the award, including a mentorship plan.
  - For new investigators, their Division Head (1 page) - Document the applicant's protected time, space, and resources to carry out the research plan and that it is anticipated that the applicant will pursue a career in diabetes-related research.
  - For projects that are leveraging samples, models, or databases which require collaboration; a letter of support for the project from the collaborators (1 page each).

Please address questions to Jane Reusch, MD ([jane.reusch@cuanschutz.edu](mailto:jane.reusch@cuanschutz.edu)), Paul Rozance, MD ([paul.rozance@cuanschutz.edu](mailto:paul.rozance@cuanschutz.edu)), and/or Lisbel Woods, ([Lisbel.Woods@CUAnschutz.edu](mailto:Lisbel.Woods@CUAnschutz.edu))