

University of Kentucky/Washington University School of Medicine Diabetes Research Center Collaborative

Pilot & Feasibility Award Guidelines

Anticipated funding start: April 1, 2027

Availability & Purpose of Funds

The Washington University Diabetes Research Center (DRC) anticipates funding new Pilot & Feasibility Awards through an ongoing collaborative program with the University of Kentucky starting **4/01/2027**. The contact Principal Investigator of this program at the University of Kentucky is Dr. Philip Kern. The goal of this program is to develop preliminary data leading to the submission of new applications for independent (NIH, Breakthrough T1D, or ADA) research grants.

Qualifications

The following qualify for grant support under the Pilot & Feasibility Program:

1. **New faculty members** involved in diabetes-related research, who have not yet obtained independent funding. Applications from these individuals are most likely to be supported by this mechanism.
 2. **Established investigators not involved in diabetes-related research** who propose feasibility studies related to diabetes.
- Applicants must hold a faculty appointment and be independent investigators in any department at University of Kentucky. Postdoctoral Fellows or their equivalents are not eligible.
 - For those applicants who hold a mentored award (e.g., NIH K01, K08, Scientist Development Grant, etc.) or who have indicated that a senior scientist will serve as a mentor, the application should be accompanied by the mentor's other support page and a letter from the mentor stating that the proposed project is independent of the mentor's research program.
 - There is no specific citizenship requirement.
 - Previous recipients of Pilot & Feasibility support are eligible, but priority will be given to those who have not been supported by this program.

Budget Guidelines

- Grants of up to \$38,000 (direct costs) for one year will be awarded.
- It is expected that the grantee will use the full amount of funding awarded during the one-year term of the award. Special permission is required to carry forward remaining funds at the year-end and is not automatically granted.
- Up to 10% salary support for faculty will be considered if the amount is <25% of the total award.
- The budget may not include funds for computers, software, travel, journal subscriptions, memberships to professional societies or the purchase of printed reference materials.

Review

- Applications are evaluated by external reviewers and the Diabetes Research Center Pilot & Feasibility

Review Committee which includes representation from both Washington University and University of Kentucky.

- Applications do **NOT** need to go through the Office of Sponsored Projects at the University of Kentucky.
- Successful proposals must be approved, if applicable, by the Human Studies, Animal Studies, Biosafety, and Radiation Safety Committees. Regulatory approvals may be “Pending” at the time of application

Submission Guidelines

Please submit the documents below as one, combined PDF. **Please do not include additional face pages.**

1. Expanded PF Grant Application Face Page, Project Summary, Project Narrative, Personnel
2. Detailed Budget for Initial Project Period
3. Budget for Entire Project Period with Budget Justification (use continuation page for justification, if needed)
4. NIH Biographical Sketch Common Form (use new SciENcv format)
5. Current and Pending (Other) Support (CPOS) Common Form
6. Facilities & Resources
7. Specific Aims and Research Plan that together do not exceed 5 pages (including tables and figures, excluding references).
 - a. Please address Significance, Innovation, and Approach.
 - b. Please format using NIH guidelines
8. Appendix:
 - a. Cover Letter from applicant stating eligibility
 - b. Letter from Department Head/Division Chief, endorsing the project
 - c. For applicants with a mentored award (e.g. NIH K01, K08, etc.), please include your mentor's letter of support and CPOS.
 - d. Regulatory approvals for the proposed project (pending is acceptable) from the institution's HRPO, IACUC, EHS, or Radiation Safety offices.
9. List of six (6) reviewers, outside the University of Kentucky, who are free of conflict of interest. Do not include collaborators, co-authors, or mentors. Provide name, position, institution, phone number, and email.

You may access the required [PHS398 \(03/2020\) Form Pages](#) online or above.

Requirements for Pilot & Feasibility Award Recipients

1. DRC support will be acknowledged on all publications related to Pilot & Feasibility Award (P30DK020579).
2. Comply with the revised [NIH Public Access Policy](#).
3. Recipients are invited to present posters at the annual WashU Diabetes Day Symposium held each November. Travel will be arranged and limited financial support is provided by the WashU DRC Administrative Core, on a first-come, first-serve basis.
4. Recipients will assist the DRC in collecting follow-up data regarding their career progression.

Successful proposals involving human subjects research must be prepared to provide the following to the WashU DRC Program Coordinator, for prior approval from the NIDDK (if necessary), before funds will be released: a. Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval; brief description of the project purposes/aims, intervention(s), outcomes/endpoints, and eligible population with sample size; Data and Safety Monitoring Plan (DSMP); Project Enrollment Tables; Clinicaltrials.gov registration number, if applicable; Education in the Protection of Human Research Participants certifications.

In addition, all DRC P&F supported projects, especially those conducting non-exempt human subjects

research, will be required to:

1. Submit planned enrollment/inclusion data in the Humans Subjects System (HSS).
2. Register all clinical trials in clinicaltrials.gov and deposit the results according to clinicaltrials.gov regulations.

Questions?

Contact [Dr. Philip Kern](#) (*University of Kentucky*) or [Reid Kenney](#) (*WashU Med*).