

Request for Applications

Innovative Research to Tackle the Epidemic of Youth-Onset Type 2 Diabetes

Background: Type 2 diabetes (T2D) is increasing at alarming rates in adolescents and young adults. This disease entity poses unique challenges in both research and clinical care. The SEARCH for Diabetes in Youth Study has shown that the number of diagnosed cases of T2D in American youth is surging. From 2001 to 2017 the number of people under age 20 living with T2D grew by a shocking 95% with youth of ethnic/racial minorities and from disadvantaged backgrounds being disproportionately affected. Youth-onset T2D occurs in complex psychosocial and cultural environments that often make durable lifestyle changes elusive and medication adherence a struggle. Youth-onset T2D clearly differs from Type 1 Diabetes (T1D). The pathophysiology of youth-onset T2D more closely resembles that of adult-onset T2D, particularly the link to obesity. Youth-onset T2D, however, displays unique aspects such as rapidly progressive beta cell decline, severe insulin resistance for handling glucose, and accelerated development of diabetes complications. Treatment options include the promotion of healthy lifestyles, metformin, insulin and GLP1 receptor agonists, yet remission is rarely achieved. As such, comprehensive, coordinated, and innovative strategies for the prevention, treatment, and remission of youth-onset T2D are urgently needed.

Goal: The mission of the American Diabetes Association is to prevent and cure diabetes and improve the lives of all people affected by diabetes. This request for applications (RFA) is soliciting proposals to address key knowledge gaps in youth-onset T2D in order to better understand, prevent, treat, and ultimately induce remission for the rapidly increasing numbers of affected individuals. Applications that focus on disadvantaged lower socioeconomic level families and patients where the burden of disease is greatest are strongly encouraged.

Scope: Emphasis will be placed on clinical research and translation. Research areas may include, but are not limited to, an improved understanding of the unique physiological features of youth-onset T2D and similarities and differences with adult-onset T2D. Also, an improved understanding of the ways in which the environment contributes to the disease pathophysiology as well as challenges in treatment including the role of obesity and its causes. Applicants are encouraged to leverage existing cohorts of well-characterized youth with or at risk for T2D where feasible (e.g. TODAY, RISE, SEARCH). ADA's consensus report ["Youth-Onset Type 2 Diabetes Consensus Report: Current Status, Challenges and Priorities"](#) provides a broad overview of youth-onset T2D and the knowledge gaps that are in scope for this RFA. Importantly, submissions should indicate how the proposed research will have a significant impact on outcomes for youth with T2D.

Applications that do not directly address the defined scope of the RFA will be triaged and will not move forward to peer review.

Application procedure: Application instructions, the link to our online application portal and applicable forms are available on the [grants page](#) of the ADA website.

Review Criteria: Applications will be evaluated on the potential of the research, if successful, to significantly improve understanding of the unique aspects of youth-onset T2D and ultimately preventing onset, optimizing care or achieving remission of the disease. Alignment with the goals of the RFA, degree of innovation and scientific rigor are key considerations. Relevant experience of the Principal Investigator, availability of the appropriate facilities and resources, the ability of the investigator/site to



recruit target populations, and/or show access to, and availability of, data sources, samples and study medications (if applicable) are also pertinent.

Only LOIs invited to submit a full application will receive reviewer critiques, which will be sent within one (1) month of final notification. This applies to both funded and unfunded submissions.

Please note that this funding opportunity does not offer postdoctoral fellowships awards. Instead, ADA will be launching a separate open call for postdoctoral fellowship awards across all diabetes topic areas in Spring 2024.

All applications must be submitted through ADA’s online grant portal. Please visit our website at <https://professional.diabetes.org/content-page/current-funding-opportunities> for full program details and application instructions for each grant type.

Questions about this request for applications should be addressed to: grantquestions@diabetes.org

OPEN WINDOW AND DEADLINES:

AWARD TYPE	OPEN DATE	SUBMISSION DEADLINE	EARLIEST AWARD START DATE
DEVELOPMENT			
Junior Faculty Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter of Interest (LOI): Monday October 2, 2023 Invitation to apply from ADA: Wednesday December 20th, 2023 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LOI Deadline: Thursday November 30th, 2023, 5:00pm ET Full Proposal Deadline: Thursday February 1st, 2024, 5:00pm ET 	July 1, 2024
RESEARCH			
Innovative Clinical or Translational Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter of Interest (LOI): Monday October 2, 2023 Invitation to apply from ADA: Wednesday December 20th, 2023 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LOI Deadline: Thursday November 30th, 2023, 5:00pm ET Full Proposal Deadline: Thursday February 1st, 2024, 5:00pm ET 	July 1, 2024
Innovative Basic Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter of Interest (LOI): Monday October 2, 2023 Invitation to apply from ADA: Wednesday December 20th, 2023 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LOI Deadline: Thursday November 30th, 2023, 5:00pm ET Full Proposal Deadline: Thursday February 1st, 2024, 5:00pm ET 	July 1, 2024

AWARD MECHANISMS

AWARD	AWARD TERM	APPLICANT	ELIGIBILITY	MAXIMUM FUNDING	SUPPORT	INDIRECT SUPPORT
DEVELOPMENT						
Junior Faculty Development	Up to 3 years, contingent on previous career development award funding (NIH K, etc.)	Faculty up to & including Asst Prof or equiv.	Junior faculty in independent position, <10 years research training following terminal degree, pre-R01, no concurrent career development support	\$138,000/year, plus student loan repayment (\$10k/yr)	Project support & PI salary up to \$75K (excludes fringe)	Up to 10% directs
RESEARCH						
Innovative Clinical or Translational Science	Up to 3 years	Any level faculty	New & established PIs with <\$500K current research support	\$200,000/year	Project support & PI salary up to 20% total cost	Up to 10% directs
Innovative Basic Science	Up to 3 years	Any level faculty	New & established PIs with <\$500K current research support	\$115,000/year	Project support & PI salary up to 20% total cost	Up to 10% directs

** The ADA's Grants Program aligns with NIH's Stipend Standards for any given year. The ADA will adjust and communicate any changes prior to award distribution, as needed.*