



CENTER FOR DIABETES
AND METABOLIC DISEASES

INDIANA UNIVERSITY

Pilot & Feasibility Grants

AN INITIATIVE FUNDED BY
NIH/NIDDK P30 DK097512

DEADLINES

Letter of Intent: **Friday January 30, 2026 @ 5:00 p.m.**

Send to Jeffrey Elmendorf jelmendo@iu.edu

Application: **Monday March 30, 2026**

UPLOAD via the **Start a Submission** link here: [CDMD Link](#)

*Please note that you will be submitting through the Indiana CTSI's grants management software WebCAMP.
The WebCAMP user's guide is available under the funding announcement here:
<https://www.indianactsi.org/researchers/funding/open-funding-opportunities/>*

Contact **Jeffrey Elmendorf, Ph.D.** jelmendo@iu.edu / 317-274-7852 for RFA questions.

Contact **Julie Driscoll** jdrisco@iu.edu for WebCAMP questions.

December 2025

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

GENERAL

A primary research-related activity of the Center for Diabetes and Metabolic Diseases (CDMD)'s Pilot and Feasibility (P&F) Program is to foster the development of new diabetes-related investigators and provide seed-support for innovative, high-risk projects. **For FY26, the program has three different grant mechanisms:**

- 1. Parent P&F Grants:** This mechanism will fund up to \$50,000 and invites applications directed toward basic biomedical, clinical, and/or translational research questions on cellular and molecular metabolism related to diabetes/obesity/metabolic syndrome, clinical and outcomes research in diabetes and obesity, complications of diabetes and obesity, islet function and survival, and nutrition and physiology of diabetes and obesity.
- 2. Alzheimer's-Focused P&F Grants:** This mechanism will fund up to \$50,000 and invites applications focused on diabetes and metabolic disease aspects of Alzheimer's disease and its related dementias (AD/ADRD)—frontotemporal dementia, Lewy body dementia, vascular cognitive impairment with dementia, and multiple etiology dementias.
- 3. Physician-Scientist P&F Grants:** This mechanism will fund up to \$50,000 and invites applications from exceptional emerging physician-scientists holding an MD (or equivalent) or MD/PhD with a patient-oriented diabetes and/or obesity-related clinical research project, who are early in their clinical research careers and show great promise to develop into future independent investigators.

These funding opportunities invite applications from investigators at Indiana University School of Medicine and other Indiana University campuses (IU Bloomington, IU Muncie, etc.), Purdue University, University of Notre Dame and the Indiana Biomedical Research Institute (IBRI). The campuses are ideal for establishing interdisciplinary collaborations and forging new partnerships between basic scientists and clinical researchers, and such collaborations are encouraged. Work supported by these funds is expected to lead to submissions of major extramural grants (R01/equivalent NIH, major foundation awards, DOD, etc.).

The program is directed at new investigators without current or past NIH research support as a PD/PI with any current or past support from other sources being modest (Category 1) and established investigators with no previous work in diabetes who wish to apply their expertise to a problem in diabetes research (Category 2). The program also considers established investigators in diabetes who propose testing innovative ideas that represent clear departure from ongoing research interests (Category 3) and investigators developing new research techniques/technologies that could be used in an CDMD Core facility (Category 4).

ELIGIBILITY

All eligible investigators must have faculty appointments, be independent investigators and have the education, skills, knowledge, and resources necessary to carry out the proposed research. National and international collaborations are allowed. Postdoctoral fellows or their equivalent are not eligible.

New investigators, as defined by the NIH, should not have previously competed successfully for a substantial (e.g., R01) NIH-supported independent research award (see http://grants.nih.gov/grants/new_investigators/#definition).

Note that established non-diabetes and diabetes-related investigators with previous and/or ongoing substantial NIH-supported independent research awards can submit applications pursuing high impact/high risk projects or projects that are a significant departure from their usual work.

RESTRICTIONS/ALLOWABLE EXPENSES

1. All budgets must have a start date of June 1, 2026.
2. Costs may not exceed \$50,000.
3. Budget requests may not include indirect costs, F&A, or PI salaries.

4. Travel budget requested must be limited to those expenses necessary to carry out the specific aims of the proposed project. Travel to conferences or seminars are not an allowable expense.
5. Graduate student stipends (only) are an allowable expense.
6. Publication fees are deemed an allowable expense.

APPLICATION & SUBMISSION PROCESS

The letter of intent is to include: **1)** Title of proposal; **2)** Name and affiliation of participants in the project; **3)** Summary of proposal (*Limit of 300 words*); and **4)** An indication of which core facilities of the CDMD will be utilized (See the [CDMD Research Cores link](#) for available resources) **Submit the letter of intent directly to Jeffrey Elmendorf jelmendo@iu.edu**

Application

The 2026 P&F Grant Application Form containing detailed instructions and all the required parts can be downloaded from the **Start a Submission** link [CDMD Link](#). Application narratives should follow the sequence provided in the application form and be single spaced in at least 11-point Arial, Helvetica, Palatino Linotype or Georgia typeface, using 0.5 inch margins.

MECHANISM FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

1. Applications will be considered one time per year.
2. Submit the letter of intent directly to Jeffrey Elmendorf at jelmendo@iu.edu
3. Submit the proposal via uploading to the CTSI Grants Management mechanism using the **Start a Submission** link here: [CDMD Link](#)

POST AWARD REQUIREMENTS

1. Awards **cannot** be given without proof of any applicable regulatory documentation. It is, therefore, important that applicants be ready to submit any necessary IACUC/IRB documents at the time of award notification.
2. Any publications and/or grant submissions should acknowledge the CDMD P&F program and this award, as well as any CDMD cores used, supported by P30DK097512.
3. Completion of an online final progress report due **Friday August 20, 2027 at 5:00 p.m.**
4. Presentation of findings to the CDMD investigators at one or more CDMD sponsored events.
5. Online update reports are due on **Friday August 18, 2028**, and **Friday August 17, 2029 at 5:00 p.m.**; submitted at one and two years post submission of the final progress report.
6. Notification to the P&F Director, in writing, if you leave your institution before the project is complete and/or if the project is transferred to another PI.