

## Limited Submission Opportunity

RFP issue date: 04/30/2024 (revised 5/3/24)

**Funder:** American Diabetes Foundation

**Program name:** The Pathway Accelerator Program

**Program website:** <https://professional.diabetes.org/research-grants/current-funding-opportunities-pathway-stop-diabetes>

**Program summary:** The ADA Pathway Accelerator Award is intended to provide flexible, long-term salary and research support to early career researchers who are proposing innovative and ambitious diabetes-related research programs, and who have distinguished themselves as exceptionally talented and promising research investigators. These awards are intended to support particularly innovative and transformational ideas that have the potential to have an exceptional impact in diabetes with an emphasis on the investigator's potential to significantly transform diabetes through translational research ("moving the needle") to improve the lives of people with diabetes.

**Limitation:** *Schools may submit an unlimited number of applications to this internal competition. UPenn will be limited in the number of applications it may advance to the ADA competition in July. (Revised)*

### Eligibility:

- Must hold a full-time independent faculty position and an MD, PhD, DMD, PharmD, DVM, or an equivalent health – or -science- related degree.
- Must have demonstrated independent productivity in diabetes research, including senior author publications.
- May currently hold independent NIH funding (K or R awards, including an initial R01/U01), but must not have applied for, or received, an R01/U01 renewal or a second R01/U01 award.
- Must devote at least 75 percent of their total time and effort to research during the funding period (with 25-50 percent effort to the ADA project).
- For any sponsored research projects, the applicant must be eligible to serve as Principal Investigator for the project, unless otherwise noted in the LSO. Please see [Penn's PI Eligibility requirements](#) to ensure you are eligible.

### Award information:

- A research award of \$325,000 /year for up to five years for a total of \$1,625,000.
- Support: Project support and PI salary.
- Indirect support: Up to 30 percent of directs.
- Project percent effort required: 25-50 percent effort to the ADA project.

### Selection Criteria:

A committee, established by the Office of the Vice Provost for Research (OVPR), will determine the final nominees to represent the University. This call for nominations will prioritize translational applications that move knowledge and discovery gained from basic research to its eventual translation into patient and population benefit. The ideal applicant will propose innovative research that will be an important

step towards the eventual goal of improving the lives of people at risk of diabetes or living with the disease - and the pathway to this impact is clear.

### **OVPR Internal Review Process**

Applications must include the following:

1. **Cover Page** which includes:
  - Proposal Title
  - Identify ADA focus: (see pg. 4 ADA Guidelines)
    - a) **basic science/preclinical** or
    - b) **translational science**
  - Candidate's name, academic rank, department, email address, phone number and campus address.
2. **Research Proposal (maximum 2 pages)**: including project title, aims and objectives.  
*NOTE: Scientific excellence is the primary benchmark for all Pathway applications, with an emphasis on the investigator's potential to significantly transform diabetes through translational research to improve the lives of people with diabetes. The proposed research strategy serves as a reflection of the individual's capacity for innovation, creativity, and collaboration.*
  - References should also be included to support the proposal but are not counted in the two-page limit.
3. A **CV** (Using NIH format) (maximum 3 pages), which includes educational background, professional appointments, awards and honors. Include all current research support (start-up and external) and pending support, including dollar amounts and start/end dates.
4. **All materials must be submitted in a single pdf document in the above order to [vrgrant@upenn.edu](mailto:vrgrant@upenn.edu)**
5. Subject line of the email should be, ADA\_Accelerator\_applicant LAST name\_ applicant FIRST name.

**Deadline: May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

### **External Funding – Limited Submission**

#### **RESEARCH AREA**

- **Dental Medicine**
- **Biomedical**
- **Engineering**

**Contact:** If you have any questions, please contact Ken Lambert or Jim McGonigle at [vrgrant@upenn.edu](mailto:vrgrant@upenn.edu).