Announcing 2018 Funding Opportunities for the Diabetic Complications Consortium (DiaComp)

Thank you for your interest in the funding program activities of DiaComp. We have updated the areas of interest for the 2018 Pilot & Feasibility program solicitation. In addition to the DiaComp solicitations, we have included a solicitation from our partner NIDDK Consortia, Rebuilding A Kidney (RBK). For those interested in wound healing, we also included an NIH funding opportunity you may want to consider.

Please follow the links below to find out more information about these exciting funding opportunities.

Click the links below to find out more information!
2018 DiaComp Pilot & Feasibility Program
2018 DiaComp Conference Support Program
RBK Partnership Project Program 2018
NIAMS Skin Biology and Diseases Resource-based Centers (RFA-AR-19-001)

The 2018 DiaComp Pilot & Feasibility Program

The NIDDK-sponsored Diabetic Complications Consortium (DiaComp) is soliciting applications for its annual Pilot and Feasibility Program

PLEASE NOTE: DiaComp can NOT accept applications from outside the United States and applications are limited to diabetic complications research that fall within the primary mission of the NIDDK. This includes diabetic nephropathy, uropathy,
neuropathy, neurocognition, gastrointestinal, liver, bone, and wound healing.

Applications of 5 pages requesting up to $100,000 for one year are due June 11, 2018.

Current areas of interest include, but are not limited to:

- **Human Tissue Interrogation**
  Develop and use innovative technologies to analyze human tissue from end organs of diabetic complications to better understand (patho)physiology and (dys)function.

- **Bioengineered Models**
  Recent advances in engineering, developmental biology, and genome editing have stimulated development of “tissue chip” and organoid models of numerous tissue compartments and disease states. The 3D cell culture in vitro models generated using human cells and physiologic conditions (e.g. flow) have the potential to more accurately recapitulate human phenotypes.

- **Repair and Regeneration**
  Devise strategies to stimulate repair/regeneration and restore function in end organs affected by diabetic complications.

- **Biosensors**
  The pathogenesis of diabetic complications is metabolically and genetically complex and involves multiple organ systems. Model organisms are well suited for studying pathophysiology driven or impacted by tissue- and organ-crosstalk. The transparency of C. elegans and zebrafish larvae permits the facile monitoring of cell-based biosensors designed to measure inter- and intra-cellular processes in free living organisms. With the advent of improved genome-editing technologies and large-scale efforts to develop biosensors (e.g. ER stress, oxidative stress, autophagy, glucose levels, hormone levels, albuminuria, etc.), the time is right for researchers to develop novel tools and adapt existing approaches to advance our understanding of the mechanisms underlying diabetic complications.

Each proposal should indicate how these next generation tools, lines and protocols will
be broadly shared.

- **Pre-clinical Testing**
  There is a compelling need to translate novel, scientifically meritorious therapeutic interventions for diabetic complications.

**Who is eligible to apply?**
Applications are accepted from domestic (US) institutions/organizations. Non-domestic (non-U.S.) Entities (Foreign Institutions) are **NOT** eligible to apply.

**What funds are available for P&F Projects?**
Applicants may request up to $100,000 (direct + indirect costs) Total Costs for one year. The number of awards will depend upon the number, quality, duration, and cost of the applications received. Awards will be made as subcontracts from the DiaComp Coordinating Unit (CU) at **Augusta University** and **NOT** directly by the NIH.

**Timetable for P&F Application Submissions.**
- **June 11th** Deadline for applications submitted to the DiaComp CU.
- **Oct. 1st** Estimated Start Date for DiaComp P&F Project funding.

**Contact Information**
For more detailed information, please go to [http://www.diacomp.org/shared/pilotFeasibility.aspx](http://www.diacomp.org/shared/pilotFeasibility.aspx)

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**The 2018 DiaComp Conference Support Program**

The **NIDDK-sponsored Diabetic Complications Consortium (DiaComp)** is soliciting applications for the **Conference Support Program**

**Applications of 5 pages** requesting up to **$20,000 per conference** are due **June 11, 2018** for conferences with **start dates after September 1, 2018**.
A scientific conference is defined as a symposium, seminar, workshop, or formal conference where individuals assemble to exchange scientific information.

This program supports high-quality scientific conferences that feature sessions or speakers directly relevant to diabetic complications and that promote communication and collaboration between research communities investigating similar pathologic mechanisms in different end organs of complications. Strong proposals will also inform investigative communities that have not traditionally been involved in complications research.

**A few examples of meritorious proposals might include, but are not limited to:**

- The organizers are planning a multi-day conference focused on diabetes and propose to add a keynote presentation and several other individual speakers to highlight complications throughout the agenda. They also propose a dedicated poster session and travel awards for junior investigators involved in complications research.

- The organizers are planning a two-day conference on basic mitochondrial biology and propose to add a session on the role of mitochondrial (dys)function in diabetic complications. They request support for 3 senior investigators and 2 junior investigators to present their scientific findings and a session chair to lead a panel discussion about research opportunities in complications.

- The organizers are planning a day and half long conference on novel imaging modalities as applied to renal disease and propose a dedicated session on the diabetic kidney. They request support for 3 additional speakers and the travel of junior investigators to present oral or poster abstracts.

**Who is eligible to apply?**

Domestic institutions or organizations, including established scientific or professional societies, are eligible to apply for conference support. Foreign institutions are NOT eligible to apply for conference support. Both domestic and international conferences may be supported; however, an international conference can be supported only through the U.S. representative organization of an established international scientific or professional society. Requests for conferences held
outside of North America are generally not allowed. An individual is not eligible to receive a grant in support of a conference.

**What funds are available for Conference Support Projects?**

Applicants may request up to $20,000 per conference per year. Multi-year applications are NOT allowed. The number of awards will depend upon the number, quality, and cost of the applications received. Facilities and Administrative (F&A) costs are NOT allowed. Awards will be made as subcontracts from the DiaComp Coordinating Unit (CU) at *Augusta University* and **NOT** directly by the NIH.

**Timetable for Conference Support Application Submissions.**

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>June 11th</td>
<td>Deadline for applications submitted to the DiaComp CU.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 1st</td>
<td>Minimum conference start dates</td>
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**Contact Information**

For more detailed information, please go to [http://www.diacomp.org/shared/conferenceSupport.aspx](http://www.diacomp.org/shared/conferenceSupport.aspx)

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**RBK Partnership Project Program 2018**

The **NIDDK-sponsored** Rebuilding A Kidney Consortium (RBK) is soliciting applications for the [Partnership Project Program](http://www.diacomp.org/shared/conferenceSupport.aspx)

Applications of 5 pages requesting up to $150,000 total cost per year for two years are due May 4, 2018.

**About RBK**

(Re)Building a Kidney is a National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases-
led consortium to optimize approaches for the isolation, expansion, and differentiation of appropriate kidney cell types and the integration of these cells into complex structures that replicate human kidney function. The ultimate goals of the consortium are two-fold: to develop and implement strategies for in vitro engineering of replacement kidney tissue, and to devise strategies to stimulate regeneration of nephrons in situ to restore failing kidney function. Projects within the consortium will answer fundamental questions regarding human gene expression in the developing kidney, essential signaling crosstalk between distinct cell types of the developing kidney, how to derive the many cell types of the kidney through directed differentiation of human pluripotent stem cells, which bioengineering or scaffolding strategies have the most potential for kidney tissue formation, and basic parameters of the regenerative response to injury. As these projects progress, the consortium will incorporate systematic investigations in physiologic function of in vitro and in vivo differentiated kidney tissue, strategies for engraftment in experimental animals, and development of therapeutic approaches to activate innate reparative responses.

RBK Partnership Project Program 2018

The RBK Partnership Project Program (PPP) invites investigators to submit applications that, if successful, will become part of the RBK (RFA-DK-14-010 & RFA-DK-14-009). The PPP aims to support the goals of the RBK through solicitation of additional projects and/or expertise in specific subject areas. Awardees of the PPP become full members of the RBK.

Current subject areas of interest are LIMITED to Physiologic Function and Repair/Regeneration:

1. Physiologic Function
   It is critical that bioengineered devices and biologicals (e.g. organoids, bioprinted devices) developed in RBK reflect the physiologic functions of the kidney. Specialized tools and expertise are needed to help evaluate these functions. Successful applications must involve a collaboration with an existing RBK member (https://www.rebuildingakidney.org/projects) and propose to evaluate physiological function in RBK-developed bioengineered devices or biologicals.

2. Repair/Regeneration
   It remains a major focus of the RBK to better understand productive repair in response to
injury. Applicants may propose either a new standalone project OR a collaboration with an existing RBK member (https://www.rebuildingakidney.org/projects).

**What funds are available?**

- Applicants may request up to $150,000 total costs (direct costs plus indirect costs) per year.
- The project period is limited to two years. A second year of support is dependent on progress and needs of the RBK Consortium.
- A narrative justification should be provided only for any major equipment (cost greater than $5,000) deemed necessary for the proposed project.
- The number of awards will depend upon the number, quality, duration, and cost of the applications received.
- Budget requests must include costs for the PI and at least one lab member to physically attend meetings twice a year. The next of these meetings are June 4-6, 2018 in Bethesda and mid-December 2018 (Location TBD). These are **required** meetings.
- Awards will be made as subcontracts from the RBK Hub (RFA-DK-14-009) at the University of Southern California and not directly by the NIDDK.

**Timetable for RBK Partnership Project Program.**

**May 4, 2018**  Deadline for submitting grants applications to the RBK Hub (Dr. Carl Kesselman).

**September 1, 2018**  Projected start date for RBK Partnership Project Program Funding.

**Contact Information**

For more detailed information, please go to [https://www.rebuildingakidney.org/partnership-project-program.html](https://www.rebuildingakidney.org/partnership-project-program.html)
NIAMS is soliciting applications for RFA-AR-19-001 Skin Biology and Diseases Resource-based Center (P30)

Applications requesting up to $500,000 direct cost/year for up to five years are due June 11, 2018.

Funding Opportunity Purpose
The National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS) requests applications for the NIAMS Resource-based Centers Program (P30) for skin biology and diseases research areas within its mission. The Resource-based Centers will provide critical research infrastructure, shared facilities, services, and/or resources to groups of investigators conducting research on skin biology and diseases, enabling them to conduct their independently-funded individual and/or collaborative research projects more efficiently and/or more effectively, with the broad overall goal of accelerating, enriching, and enhancing the effectiveness of ongoing basic, translational, and clinical research and promoting new research within the NIAMS mission.

Who is eligible to apply?
Applications are accepted from domestic (US) institutions/organizations. Non-domestic (non-U.S.) Entities (Foreign Institutions) are NOT eligible to apply.

What funds are available?
NIAMS intends to commit up to $1.5 million in FY 2019 to fund a maximum of three awards. The number of awards is contingent upon NIH appropriations, and the submission of a sufficient number of meritorious applications. Application budgets are limited to $500,000 direct costs per year. The scope of the proposed project should determine the project period. The maximum project period is 5 years.

Timetable for BioCon P&F Program.
Letter of intent due 30 days prior to application due. Application due date: June 11, 2018 (by 5:00 pm local time of applicant organization) Scientific Merit Review: October/November 2018
Contact Information
For more detailed information please see the RFA announcement.

Address questions regarding the DiaComp Funding Programs:
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