



NOTE: You can apply to either the Developmental Project Program or the REC Scholar program (if you are a junior faculty or clinical fellow), but not to both.

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

UK-ADRC Developmental Project Program

The UK-ADRC Developmental Project Program is a pilot program supported by our NIH Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (UK-ADRC) grant P30 AG072946. The program is primarily aimed at junior investigators (postdoctoral fellows, assistant professors, senior research associates, or clinical fellows) and will provide pilot grant support for research in Alzheimer's disease (AD) and related dementias. Awards are intended to provide seed funding for novel hypotheses that lead to national-level funding of an expanded research plan based on the pilot work.

In this application cycle, we will award **two** 2-year developmental projects at \$50,000 per year, with funding decision in Nov/Dec, 2026.

Eligibility:

The program is open to all faculty with appointments at UK, as well as senior research associates, clinical fellows, or postdoctoral investigators. Postdoctoral or junior investigators are encouraged to apply. More senior investigators from other fields who wish to apply their expertise to ADRC research or explore new ideas that is not an extension of ongoing ADRC research are also eligible.

Proposals with a focus on basic/ translational/ clinical research relevant to AD and related dementias are strongly encouraged and of particular interest. Areas of special interest include studies on risk factors, prevention, preclinical AD, therapeutics, caregiving, medically underserved populations, cognitive processes, and neuroimaging. Clinical trials are NOT allowed.

Applicants are encouraged to use UK-ADRC resources where feasible [<https://medicine.uky.edu/centers/sbcoa>]. In addition, longitudinal data from all ADRCs are available through the National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center (NACC) [<https://naccdata.org>] and biospecimens from all ADRCs are available through the National Centralized Repository for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (NCRAD) [<https://ncrad.iu.edu>]. Applicants are strongly encouraged to visit these websites to see if the resources would be of benefit to their proposed projects.

Developmental Project Applications should include:

1. Significance of the research question and the potential impact in the field.
2. Scientific merit, feasibility, and appropriateness of the proposed experiment.
3. The use of ADRC resources where possible.
4. Expertise of the applicant and research team.
5. The novelty and innovation of the proposed research.
6. The intent and plan that will lead to extramural funding.

Application Format:

- **Cover page** that provides the Title of the proposal, PI name, Academic Position, Department, Campus Address, Email, Phone #. See Application Face Page template on the page below.
- **Proposed Research Plan** in NO MORE THAN 3 (three) pages (single-spaced using no less than 11-point Arial font and 1/2" margins). Include Specific Aims, Background & Significance, Preliminary Work (if available), and Experimental Design. Up to 3 additional pages of figures and Literature Cited can be included if desired. The ideal project will be focused on obtaining preliminary data for support of a future submission for extramural research funding.
- **Description and plan of how this award will aid in extramural funding** (1/2 page) Describe how the data derived from this award will help procure extramural research funding. Describe what extramural sources might be targeted from this type of data.
- **Description of the Research Team** (1/2 page) Describe how the applicant and research team is best qualified for this research proposal and how it is suited for ADRD research.
- **Biographical Sketch** (5-page limit, old NIH format; you can use SciENCv format if desired).
- **Budget, with budget justification.** Up to \$50,000 can be requested each year, for a 2-year project period (See budget template below). No major equipment allowed; no indirect costs allowed.

Applications will be accepted and reviewed according to the following schedule

Call for Applications	Full Application Receipt Deadline	Funding Decision
1Sept2026	5Oct2026	Nov-Dec 2026

Applicants are encouraged where possible to **communicate before submission** with investigators in the ADRC's existing Cores -- Clinical [Dr. Gregory Jicha], Neuropathology [Dr. Peter Nelson], Data Management & Statistics [Dr.s Erin Abner/David Fardo], Outreach Recruitment & Engagement [Dr. Elizabeth Rhodus], Biomarker [Drs. Brian Gold/Peter Nelson] and Research Education Component [Dr. Dan Lee] -- in order to strengthen their research plan.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED AS SINGLE PDF FILE TO:

Charlotte Wood (charlotte.wood@uky.edu) by 11:59pm, Monday, October 5, 2026.

Application Review: Applications will be reviewed by the Developmental Project Review Committee and external faculty reviewers (if needed) with expertise in the fields covered in the applications. Summaries of the reviews will be provided to the applicant.

Questions: Any questions regarding this announcement should be addressed to Drs. Linda Van Eldik (linda.vaneldik@uky.edu) or Daniel C. Lee (dan.lee@uky.edu).



Sanders-Brown Center on Aging

UK-ADRC Developmental Project Application Face Page

Title of Research Grant		
Submission Date		
Funding period		☒ Two Year
Amount requested for the research (max. amount \$50,000 per year)		

Principal Investigator					
First Name		Middle Initial(s)		Last Name	
Title					
Institution Information					
Name of Institution:		University of Kentucky			
Department:					
Address 1					
Address 2					
City		State		Zip Code	
Country					
Phone		E-mail			

UK-ADRC Developmental Project Budget Template

Personnel on Project	Role on Project	% effort	Salary/fringe/ins requested- Yr 1	Salary/fringe/ins requested- Yr 2
	PD/PI			
Category and itemized by category			Yr 1 request	Yr 2 request
Materials and Supplies				
Domestic Travel				
Other Expenses (e.g., Core fees, animal costs)				
Total Direct Costs Requested (limited to \$50K per year)			\$xx,xxx	\$xx,xxx

Budget Justification: