

EFSD and Lilly European Diabetes Research Programme

Deadline for submission of applications: 1 September 2025

Application Submission:

Applications for this programme must be submitted through the new **EFSD Programme Portal**. Applications submitted in any other way will not be considered.

Accessing the portal:

Go to the **EFSD Programme Portal** to create your account and log in.

Follow the step-by-step instructions from the **User Guide** to complete and submit your application.

Required Documents:

Please ensure that the following documents are correctly filled out, formatted and ready for upload before submitting your application. Without uploading the required documents, applications will not be considered complete and will be rejected.

- Research Plan (**download template**)
- Signatures and Declaration (**download template**)
- Institution non-profit status (bylaws and governing document certifying non-profit status of your institution)
- Biographical sketch of the applicant (Principal Investigator and any Co-Investigator(s), no more than 3 pages per

- investigator)
- Collaborative Agreements (**download template**)
- List of Abstracts from any other support, pending or current (if applicable)

Background

The European Foundation for the Study of Diabetes (EFSD) was created by the European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD) to provide funding initiatives in all areas of diabetes research. The aims of EFSD are to encourage and support research in the field of diabetes, to rapidly diffuse acquired knowledge and to facilitate its application.

Lilly has been a global leader in diabetes care since 1923, when Lilly introduced the world's first commercial insulin. Today Lilly is building upon this heritage by working to meet the diverse needs of people with diabetes and those who care for them. Through research, collaboration and quality manufacturing Lilly strives to make life better for people affected by diabetes and related conditions. Lilly works to deliver breakthrough outcomes through innovative solutions - from medicines and technologies to support programmes and more.

Programme and Research Focus

The EFSD/Lilly Programme aims to promote increased European diabetes research and to raise public awareness and political understanding of the magnitude and burden of the disease.

To achieve the goals and objectives of this Programme, EFSD and Lilly invite applications by issuing this "Request for Applications" (RFA). The EFSD/Lilly Programme will accept applications within any area of basic or clinical diabetes research.

Mechanism of Support and Review

Research will be supported through the award of grants, each of up to Euro 100,000. The duration of each award may be one year or longer, depending upon the needs of the project and as justified in the application. EFSD may, on advisement from the Review Committee, recommend an award in a different amount from that requested, but which is considered more appropriate for the proposed studies.

Applicants who have a funding requirement larger than Euro 100,000 are also invited to apply to this Programme, particularly if this relates to a clinical research project. In this case, the relevant financial requirements should be indicated and clearly justified

in the budget section of the application.

All projects need to provide comprehensive justification of their budget and a clear description of both, the requested amount from EFSD as well as the available funding for the project from other sources, if applicable (see Review Considerations).

In exceptional cases, applications for funding in an amount larger than Euro 100,000 and up to Euro 250,000 may be considered for funding. Here the additional relevant financial requirements need to be clearly justified and applicants should also indicate which part of the study will be feasible in the case of a Euro 100,000 award.

Applications for an EFSD/Lilly Research Programme grant are invited from single non-profit institutions or groups of such institutions from Europe and associated countries (for detailed country list, please see **here**). The principal investigator and any co-investigators must be employed at a non-profit institution in Europe or associated country and the study must be performed at their place of work.

Applications will be subject to scientific review by a specialised and independent *ad hoc* committee. It is anticipated that applications will be received, reviewed and approved for funding by December 2025.

Prior to any final decision on funding, and in order to offer applicants the opportunity to benefit from the review process, EFSD reserves the right to request revision to applications in accordance with the recommendations of the Review Committee.

EFSD may, at the suggestion of the Review Committee, recommend an award in a different amount from that requested, but which is considered more appropriate for the proposed studies.

Research Grant Applications

Applications for research grants may be subjected to pre-review (or triage) procedures. In this event, any application rejected at pre-review will not be subject to a complete scientific review and no feedback report will be provided to the applicant.

The deadline for receipt of research grant applications for funding this year is **1 September 2025**.

All budgets are to be prepared in Euro. For countries in which the Euro is not the common currency, the exchange rate (between the Euro and the local currency in the country where the work is to be performed) used for calculating the Euro budget must be mentioned under “Budget Justification”.

Applications for this programme must be submitted online via the EFSD Programme Portal.

All applications must be prepared on the official application form available on the portal and completed in strict accordance with the detailed instructions to be found there. Applications which do not comply with the given instructions will not be considered for review. Please refer to the **User Guide** to learn more about the application process and key functionalities of the EFSD Programme Portal.

Please submit your application via the EFSD Programme Portal before 12:00 CET on the deadline date 1 September 2025.

Review Considerations

Completed applications will be evaluated in accordance with the criteria stated below for scientific/technical merit by an appropriate and independent scientific committee.

Review criteria are as follows:

- **Significance:** Does the study address an important problem? If the aims of the application are achieved, how will scientific knowledge be advanced? What will be the effect of the proposed studies on the concepts or methods that drive this field?
- **Approach:** Are the conceptual framework, design, methods and analyses adequately developed, well integrated, and appropriate to the aims of the project? Does the applicant acknowledge potential problem areas and consider alternative tactics?
- **Innovation:** Does the project employ novel concepts, approaches or methods? Are the aims original and innovative? Does the project challenge existing paradigms or develop new methodologies or technologies?
- **Investigator:** Is the investigator appropriately trained and well suited to carry out this work? Is the work proposed appropriate to the experience level of the principal investigator and other researchers (if any)?
- **Environment:** Does the scientific environment in which the work will be done contribute to the probability of success? Do the proposed experiments take advantage of unique features of the scientific environment or employ useful collaborative arrangements? Is there evidence of institutional support?
- **Budget and feasibility:** Is the requested budget appropriate for the proposed study? Is the requested duration suitable for completion of the project?
- **Contribution towards a larger research project:** Is the work described in the application intended as part of a larger project? If so, is there any overlap? Is there a clear explanation how the new work will contribute towards the overall success of that larger project? Can financial feasibility be assessed (was a clear description given of the total costs of the whole project, the funding from other sources and the amount and purpose of the requested EFSD funding)?

Reporting Requirements and Approval of Funding

All funded applications will receive initial funding instalment upon confirmation of the approval of the Review Committee as appropriate. For one-year project 90% of the funding will be provided at the start of the programme while the remaining 10% will

be paid upon submission of final scientific and financial report. For those projects where funding is distributed over a period of more than one year, the initial instalment will be 50%. A second 40% instalment will be paid upon submission of an interim progress report with the final 10% paid upon submission of the final scientific and financial report. All reports will be subject to assessment prior to the release of any further funds.

Investigators must provide EFSD with copies of papers accepted for publication and must acknowledge the support of the Programme in all written material by use of the phrase: "Supported by an EFSD/Lilly research grant".

Funded investigators are expected to be willing to serve as reviewers for EFSD in the future.

Competitive Renewal

Applications for a grant renewal will be accepted on a competitive basis, with the same review process as described in this Announcement. Such applications will thus be considered in the same fashion as all other new applications received for review and without any special priority.

Schedule Announcement: May 2025
Application Deadline: 1 September 2025
Anticipated Award: December 2025

Enquiries Enquiries should be directed to **foundation@easd.org**.

About us

The aims of the Foundation are to encourage and support groundbreaking diabetes research and to promote the next generation of leading diabetes researchers.

EFSD

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Scientific Misconduct and Ethics Policy

Code of Conduct

Impressum

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