

COERE Scholars 2026 Application Guidelines

I. OVERVIEW

COERE Scholars is currently recruiting for the July 1, 2026, cohort. COERE Scholars is a new training program for UAB postdoctoral trainees and early-stage investigators looking to obtain training in health services and outcomes research. Training activities for this one-year program include weekly seminars, monthly workshops, quarterly check-ins and works-in-progress presentations, 1:1 mentoring, and an introduction to NIH grant writing with the goal of grant submission. Those who submit a Career Development Award (NIH K award or equivalent) or UAB pilot grant within 6 months of program completion will receive a monetary incentive.

The program is accepting applications through 11:59pm CST on April 27, 2026. COERE Scholars is a 12-month program and commitment. The program runs July 1 – June 30 annually.

Support for this training program is provided by the Center for Outcomes and Effectiveness Research and Education and Heersink School of Medicine through HSOM Refresh HSOMREFRESH1023.

Program Alignment: We seek candidates interested in conducting health services research and outcomes research and who aspire to become change agents who advance healthcare outcomes.

The training program prepares interdisciplinary investigators to pursue careers in health services and outcomes research. Skills development will include exposure to relevant epidemiological, statistical, experimental, mixed methods, and quasi- experimental methodologies, health equity research methods, and academic survivor skills such as developing an NIH-style Biosketch and elevator pitch, all with an emphasis on the practical application of health services research methodology.

Benefits of the Program:

Mentorship – Mentorship is a cornerstone of COERE Scholars. Each Scholar is supported by a primary mentor and the Program Directors, who work collaboratively to ensure individualized guidance and progress toward defined training and career goals. This approach provides the scientific and professional support needed for research success and preparation for independent careers in health services research.

Weekly Friday Fellows seminars series – Held on Friday mornings from August through May in a hybrid format, the Friday Fellows Seminar Series provides a “disease-agnostic” forum for research methods training, professional development, and Works-in-Progress (WIP) presentations. Trainees strengthen their research and communication skills while building interdisciplinary connections across UAB and the CCTS Partner Network.

Invitation-only Monthly Career Development Workshops – These 1.5-hour sessions provide a dedicated forum to strengthen academic and professional skills while building community among Scholars. Each workshop combines concise instruction with interactive, “hands-on” activities that allow trainees to apply new concepts in real time. Topics complement the Friday Fellows Seminar Series and align with key trainee milestones—covering essential skills such as developing an Individual Development Plan (IDP), crafting abstracts and manuscripts, Workshops from January – June focus on key components of an NIH K grant and assist Scholars will developing these grant components.

Research Project Monitoring and Feedback – Twice annually, COERE Scholars present a Works-in-Progress (WIP) session during Friday Fellows, providing an opportunity for constructive feedback from peers, COERE Faculty, and Program Directors. These sessions strengthen Scholars’ presentation skills and foster discussion, collaboration, and problem-solving around evolving research projects. This structured forum allows program leadership to monitor progress, address challenges, and ensure continued advancement toward each trainee’s training and research goals. COERE Scholars will also meet with mentor/sponsor teams twice annually to provide high-level career advice and help to troubleshoot research and other professional obstacles.

Immersive Training Experience with COERE on Boshell 8 (Optional) – COERE Scholars provides an immersive, collaborative environment that promotes interdisciplinary exchange and innovation. A dedicated six-workstation office suite on Boshell 8 is reserved for COERE Scholars, encouraging daily interaction and shared learning among peers and faculty. Faculty methodologists (biostatistics, epidemiology, implementation science, quality and safety) hold regular Office Hours in this space, creating accessible opportunities for consultation and mentorship. This co-located environment fosters spontaneous discussions and collaboration between clinical (MD) and non-clinical (PhD) trainees, enriching the overall training experience.

National Presentation and Publication Expectations – COERE Scholars expects all trainees to present their research at local (UAB) and national meetings relevant to their field. While not all manuscripts may be accepted within during the training period, Scholars receive ongoing mentorship to support continued scholarly productivity and future research success.

Membership in a Successful, Vibrant, and Distinct Program Alumni Community – Graduates of COERE Scholars join an active alumni community that carries forward the collaborative spirit of their training experience. Alumni stay engaged through mentorship, invited presentations, and professional development activities, forming a supportive network across clinical and non-clinical disciplines at UAB. Many hold competitive research and leadership roles, collaborate with current trainees and faculty, and partner with one another on manuscripts and grants. Others remain involved with COERE through roles such as Associate Director and Steering Committee member. This vibrant community provides fellows with enduring relationships that continue to advance their careers as independent health services researchers.

Recommended didactic training programs. The UAB School of Public Health offers MSPH programs in Outcomes Research and Epidemiology. These are research-focused degree programs that include methods training and conclude with a thesis project. The UAB School of Health Professions offers Master of Science in Health Informatics and Master of Science in Healthcare Quality and Safety, as well as a graduate certificate in Healthcare Quality and Safety and Mixed Methods Research, among other topics. UAB also offers several certificate programs. Programs that may be of particular interest to COERE Scholars include:

- Healthcare Quality and Safety
- Application of Mixed Methods Research
- Clinical Informatics
- Healthcare Leadership
- Applied Biostatistics and Epidemiology
- Social & Behavioral Statistics,
- Many options for those with MSN and APRN

II. ELIGIBILITY

Postdocs and Early-Stage Investigators - Eligible applicants will have earned a clinical or research doctorate, including PhD, ScD, DrPH, MD, DO, DC, ND, DDS, DMD, DNS or equivalent doctoral degree and hold a current appointment in a postdoctoral or faculty status in any UAB School or College. For clinicians, the program may be coordinated with a current residency program or clinical fellowship. No citizenship or permanent residency requirements

Applicants must have the support of their home department/division and at least 50% protected time (with salary support for that protected time) for research and COERE Scholars activities.

All candidates must demonstrate a commitment to mentored research training and career development in health services research. No citizenship or permanent residency requirements.

III. IMPORTANT DATES

March 30, 2026 – Request for applications released.

April 27, 2026, 11:59 PM CST – Applications due.

May 11, 2026 – Candidates notified of application outcome.

July 1, 2026 – Training program start date.

IV. APPLICATION PROCESS

Submission of Materials:

1. Interested applicants will complete the online survey, including **a single PDF upload containing:** (A) **Statement of Interest**, and (B) **Curriculum Vitae**. The application survey can be found on the COERE website: <https://www.uab.edu/medicine/coere/education/t32-fellowship-in-outcomes-and-effectiveness-research-and-health-services-research>

(A) **Statement of Interest.** Please include a statement of interest (2 page maximum *not* including references, in Arial 11 font, 0.5" margins) addressing the following:

- 1) What is your primary research question and how are you answering it?
- 2) How are your research project(s) distinct from your mentors' research projects?
- 3) How does your research question and the associated projects seek to improve the delivery of healthcare in the United States?
- 4) During the training program, what are your goals for paper, abstract, and grant submissions?
- 5) During the training program, what are your plans for working towards degrees or other skills development coursework? This could also be a certificate, workshops, etc.
- 6) List the mentors you propose to work with and the mentorship that each will provide to you.

(B) **Curriculum Vitae.** Please provide a current CV including your current position, educational background, funding, publication record, and past/current research experience.

2. **Letters of recommendation.** Please provide 2 letters of recommendation. One should be from your proposed primary mentor and should describe their plan for your training and development and their commitment to you as primary mentor. The other should be from faculty you have worked with directly on research or research training-related activities or who have supervised you in your graduate training. **One of the letters must confirm that the applicant has 50% protected time (with salary support for that protected time from July 1 to June 30) to dedicate to research and COERE Scholars.**

Letters of recommendation should be emailed directly to Amber Ganoe at aganoe@uabmc.edu by 11:59 PM CST, April 27, 2026. Letters of recommendation should be addressed to:

COERE Scholars
Center for Outcomes and Effectiveness Research and Education
Boshell 831
1808 7th Ave S.
Birmingham, AL 35233

V. CONTACT

For questions about the application process or the training program, please contact Amber Ganoe at aganoe@uabmc.edu.