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June 24, 2026

News & Upcoming Events

I³R Watershed Grants Program (FY27) – Now Open

We are excited to share that the **I³R Watershed Grants Program (FY27)** is now open and accepting proposals! This program is designed to catalyze new research collaborations, accelerate translational research, and position teams for competitive external funding.

Priority areas include:

- Metabolic, rural, maternal, and accessible health
- Food and nutrition
- Robotics and VR/XR
- Artificial and natural intelligence
- Community engagement for health improvement
- Related interdisciplinary research areas

Key Dates:

- Proposal Deadline: July 13, 2026 (5:00 PM)
- Award Notifications: By July 31, 2026
- Project Period: August 15, 2026 – August 14, 2027

[1-Page Information](#)

[Full Solicitation](#)

For questions, please contact Philip Sambol at psambol@uark.edu

A New Podcast Episode from BioVentures is Out

AR Health Ventures Accelerator Program (Part 6): Extending Longevity of Kidneys Viable for Transplant

In this episode, Dr. Marie Burdine discusses her team's development of a novel drug designed to reduce delayed graft function, a complication that affects about 30% of kidney transplant recipients. DGF occurs when donor kidneys are damaged during transport and fail to function immediately after transplantation, increasing the risk of rejection and prolonged hospitalization. Using a pig transplant model, Dr. Burdine's team is testing whether adding the drug to organ preservation solutions can protect kidneys from this damage. Early results are promising, showing faster recovery of kidney function and reduced injury. If successful, the technology could improve transplant outcomes, expand the number of usable donor organs, and help reduce transplant waiting lists. Dr. Burdine is a cohort member of the most recent AR Health Ventures Accelerator Program (ARHVA). Find more info on the program [HERE](#).



[Click to Listen Episode 19](#)

Limited Submission: NIH Shared-Use Infrastructure Grant (C06)

The NIH Office of Research Infrastructure Programs (ORIP) has announced a significant infrastructure grant (**PAR-26-106**) to fund the **Construction or Modernization of Collaborative Research Facilities**.

Important: UAMS is limited to **one application**, requiring an internal selection process.

Available Programs:

- **Biomedical Research Facilities (BRF):** \$2,000,000 to \$8,000,000 (Basic, translational, clinical, or behavioral infrastructure)
- **HIV/AIDS Research Facilities (HRF):** \$2,000,000 to \$4,000,000 (Aligned with NIH OAR priorities)

Key Details:

- **Funding:** Awards are for up to 5 years, issued in a single payment. F&A costs are not allowable.
- **UAMS Internal Deadline:** November 16, 2026, by 5:00 PM
- **NIH Deadline:** January 25, 2027

If you are considering submitting or would like guidance on the pre-application process, please contact:

- Dr. Voth: DVoth@uams.edu
- Dr. Elasri: MOElasri@uams.edu

Research Wins Vol. 5: Now Available



From pioneering discoveries to training the next generation of scientists, dive into our newest volume.

Inside this issue:

- Vice Chancellor's Update & New Leadership
- Notable Grants & Rising Stars
- Research in Action & Excellence in Publishing

[Read Research Wins Vol. 5](#)

CDMRP Webinars

Congress appropriated \$1.27B in FY26 funding for CDMRP through the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026 signed into law on February 3, 2026. CDMRP is releasing its FY26 research program funding opportunities and hosting four webinars for the program areas listed on the dates shown below from 12:00–1:00 p.m. ET. These meetings will be recorded. Live attendance as well as the recordings can be viewed using the same links.

July 8, 12:00–1:00 p.m. ET

Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, Joint Warfighter Medical, Kidney Cancer, Neurofibromatosis, Parkinsons, Prostate Cancer, Rare Cancers, Toxic Exposures

[Webinar Link](#)

Now Open: 2027 UAMS Medical Research Endowment Fund Applications

Applications for the 2027 UAMS Medical Research Endowment (MRE) Fund are now open. Key information is summarized below.

AWARD DETAILS

- Maximum award: \$25,000
- Deadline: **August 30, 2026**
- Funding start: February 1, 2027

ELIGIBILITY

Permanent, full-time UAMS faculty at the rank of Assistant Professor or above. Faculty who received an MRE award last year (as PI or Co-Investigator) are not eligible for this cycle.

FUNDING PRIORITIES

1. Early-stage investigators
2. Start-up or seed efforts in new research areas
3. Projects with strong potential for extramural funding
4. Established investigators pursuing new research directions

[View Full Guidelines](#)

[Submit Your MRE Application](#)

Quick Guide to NIH Public Access Policy Requirements and Key Compliance Steps for Researchers

As of July 1, 2025, the updated NIH Public Access Policy requires that all peer-reviewed publications arising from NIH-funded research be made immediately publicly available in PubMed Central (PMC) with no embargo. Researchers should confirm their journal's compliance pathway or be prepared to deposit the Author Accepted Manuscript via NIHMS at acceptance to avoid delays or funding impact.

[Read the Quick Guide](#)

Research Administration Roundtable

Topic: Capital Budget Committee

July 21, 2026 | 2:30 - 3:30 PM | Rayford Auditorium, Biomed II



Speaker:

Taylor Crow, CPA, MBA

Assistant Vice Chancellor for Strategic Finance

[Add to Calendar](#)

Funding Opportunities

FY26 CDMRP Funding Opportunities

The Department of War (DOW) Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP) has released FY26 program announcements for the following programs (all cost caps are total costs):

- **Alzheimer's (AZRP)** | [View Opportunities](#)
- **Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALSRP)** | [View Opportunities](#)
- **Arthritis (ATRP)** *New award added* | [View Opportunities](#)
- **Breast Cancer (BCRP)** | [View Opportunities](#)
- **Ovarian Cancer (OCRP)** | [View Opportunities](#)
- **Pancreatic Cancer (PCARP)** | [View Opportunities](#)
- **Spinal Cord Injury (SCIRP)** | [View Opportunities](#)

Visit the links above to view full announcements and submit a pre-application via eBRAP.

The following programs have released **pre-announcements** — official funding opportunities and due dates will be posted on Grants.gov pending Executive Order 14332 approval. Applicants should plan for condensed timelines for submission of both pre- and full applications.

- **Rare Cancers (RCRP)** | [View Pre-Announcement](#)
- **Kidney Cancer (KCRP)** | [View Pre-Announcement](#)

Visit the links above to view full details and submit pre-applications. For additional opportunities, see [anticipated](#) and [archived](#) funding opportunities on the CDMRP website.

More Funding Forecast/Opportunities

Department of Health and Human Services - National Institutes of Health - Genomic and Biologic Therapies for AD/AD (U01 Clinical Trial Optional)

Estimated Post Date: July 1, 2026

For more information: <https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/361287>

Past Weekly Updates and Newsletters

Weekly Updates

[June 17, 2026](#)

[June 10, 2026](#)

[June 3, 2026](#)

[May 20, 2026](#)

[May 13, 2026](#)

Newsletters

[May 2026](#)

[April 2026](#)

[March, 2026](#)

[February 2026](#)

[January 2026](#)

Daniel E. Voth, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Research
and Innovation

UAMS

Research & Innovation

Biomedical Research Bldg. II
159-2, Slot 718
4301 W. Markham St.
Little Rock, AR 72205

research.uams.edu