

End Diabetes Stigma Global Summit

**Seed-Funding Collaboration Opportunity:
Call for Travel Grant Applications**

*Bringing people, teams and organisations together
to advance collective and coordinated action towards a world
without diabetes stigma and discrimination.*

Call opens: 31 August 2026

Call closes: 30 September 2026, 11.59pm CEST



At a glance

Total available	Approximately US\$100,000
Grant amounts	Up to US\$5,000, US\$20,000, or US\$50,000
Award mechanism	Travel grants via #dedoc°
Call opens	31 August 2026
Call closes	30 September 2026, 11.59pm CEST
Decisions communicated by	31 October 2026
Activities to be completed by	31 March 2027
Report due by	30 April 2027
Who can apply?	Collaborative teams involving: a) 2026 Global Summit attendees, and b) people with lived experience of ANY type of diabetes. Teams may also include the following: researchers, health professionals, community organisations, policymakers, industry and public sector

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1. Purpose: about the travel grants

[International consensus](#) recommendations to bring an end diabetes stigma and discrimination were published in *The Lancet Diabetes & Endocrinology* in 2024. The 2026 Global Summit to End Diabetes Stigma built on this foundation by identifying shared priorities, strengthening connections, and exploring opportunities for action. This funding opportunity is designed to support the next step: turning shared commitments into collaborative action.

Funded by **Breakthrough T1D**, and enabled by the **Australian Centre for Behavioural Research in Diabetes** and **#dedoc**^o, travel grants will help teams meet in person to plan, learn, make decisions, and take action together.

Funding can help people and organisations to:

- develop shared priorities and action plans, align existing work
- strengthen partnerships, advance collaborative advocacy, research, practice or policy
- develop practical resources or initiatives
- establish foundations for sustained follow-up and impact.

The emphasis is on working together, learning together and building momentum beyond the Summit. Travel is a way to make the work possible. Travel is not the main goal. Every funded activity must benefit a wider community, partnership, or initiative. The funding is not for travel that benefits only the individual traveller.

2. Strategic alignment

Every activity must contribute to a shared effort to end diabetes stigma and discrimination. Applications need to show how the proposed activity advances priorities emerging from:

- the [international consensus](#) to bring an end to diabetes stigma and discrimination (*The Lancet Diabetes & Endocrinology*, 2024)
- the [Pledge](#) to End Diabetes Stigma and Discrimination
- the 2026 [Global Summit](#) to End Diabetes Stigma

3. What can be supported?

Approximately US\$100,000 is available in total. Maximum awards and example activities are listed below. Partial amounts may be offered. Applicants should request the minimum amount needed to achieve their aims. Activities may be local, national, regional, or international. International travel is not required.

Category	Activities	Maximum Award**
Connect	Travel that enables one or more individuals to take part in a broader collaborative effort, build relationships, or learn from others. This includes peer exchanges, partnership visits or early-stage activities that help people connect, understand each other's work, and explore opportunities.*	US\$5,000
Coordinate	Travel that enables several individuals to come together for planning, problem-solving or shared decision-making. This includes action-planning meetings, workshops, or partnership activities that align people and organisations around shared goals and coordinated action.	US\$20,000
Catalyse	Travel that enables several individuals to come together at a multi-country, regional or global level to accelerate momentum, expand partnerships, or launch new initiatives. This includes larger-scale workshops, partnership activities, alliance-building and multi-country planning designed to spark wider change and strengthen international connections.	US\$50,000



This opportunity does **not** support travel that benefits only the individual traveller. Instead, travel and activities should enable collective benefits, e.g., shared learnings, contributions to a joint plan, development of a community resource, or strengthening an ongoing collaboration.

Travel grants and bookings will be administered via #dedoc°. Funding should be used for travel related costs:

- domestic or international return economy travel (flights and ground travel)
- accommodation
- visas
- travel insurance
- reasonable local transport
- accessibility-related travel costs
- other essential costs related directly to approved travel.

NB. Additional support (e.g. venue bookings, catering) may be considered where essential. Standard travel costs should not be more than US\$5,000 for each traveler. Essential accessibility and support-person costs may be considered separately.

4. Who can apply?

We welcome applications from teams (that is, at least two people, groups or organisations).

Teams must include at least:

- a) one attendee of the 2026 Global Summit to End Diabetes Stigma, and
- b) one person with lived experience of ANY type of diabetes.

Teams may also include:

- researchers
- health professionals
- community organisations, charity, advocacy groups
- government, policymakers, industry and/or public sector representatives
- family members, and people with loved experience of diabetes. However, they do not replace the requirement to include a person living with diabetes.
- people who did not attend the Global Summit. Bringing new people, organisations, and communities into this work is encouraged.

NB. We recognise that a single individual may meet more than one of the above requirements or bring more than one type of expertise. This funding opportunity is global. We encourage applications involving people from under-represented regions, low- and middle-income countries, multi-country collaborations, and communities with historically limited access to funding. You do not need to be affiliated with a university or large organisation to apply. Applications are welcome from grassroots groups, community organisations, independent advocates, researchers, health professionals, policymakers, and other partners.

Industry organisations may participate in collaborative teams. Any industry involvement must be transparent, avoid product promotion, support shared decision-making, and ensure the independence of other partners. Industry involvement will not provide any advantage in the assessment process.

5. What can you apply for?

To be eligible, an activity must:

- require travel to achieve its objectives



- align with and uphold the [Global Pledge](#) to End Diabetes Stigma
- aim to contribute directly to bringing an end to diabetes stigma and discrimination
- build on idea, relationships, or priorities, emerging from the 2026 Global Summit to End Diabetes Stigma
- include meaningful leadership by, or involvement of, people with lived experience of ANY type of diabetes. Meaningful means involved in decision making from planning to reporting.
- have a clear benefit beyond the individual traveller
- identify practical outputs, outcomes or commitments with a credible follow-up plan
- be completed by 31 March 2027 (unless otherwise approved by the funding committee).

This opportunity will **not** support:

- travel that mainly benefits one individual
- activities without a clear connection to ending diabetes stigma or discrimination
- conference attendance (though activities that can be timed to align with conferences to enable efficient use of resources)
- entirely online / virtual activities
- retrospective travel or costs from before the funding agreement
- product advertising or commercial promotion
- salaries, general employment costs or institutional overheads, equipment, capital purchases or routine office expenses, tourism or personal travel.

Personal learning may be part of an activity. However, it cannot be the only expected benefit. A wider benefit might include:

- developing a shared plan
- strengthening a partnership
- creating a community resource
- coordinating advocacy
- sharing knowledge between communities
- informing policy or practice
- starting a longer-term initiative

6. Meaningful involvement of people living with diabetes

At least one person living with diabetes must be actively involved in shaping the application, planning and delivering the activity, making decisions, and determining next steps. It is not sufficient to include a person living with diabetes solely as an advisor, endorser, speaker, or participant. Applications should clearly describe how people living with diabetes will contribute, influence decisions, and share responsibility throughout the activity.

People with lived experience must not be pressured to disclose health information or share personal experiences. Informed consent must be obtained before any names, images, stories, or personal information are collected, recorded, or shared. Where relevant, applicants should have appropriate measures in place to support participant wellbeing and respond to any distress or concerns that may arise during the activity.

7. How will your application be evaluated?

Applications will first be reviewed to confirm they meet the eligibility requirements. Eligible applications will then be assessed anonymously by at least two independent reviewers, using the below criteria and weightings. Applicants will not be assessed on the quality of their English or their experience writing grant applications.



Reviewers may include people with lived experience of different types of diabetes and people from different regions of the world. Independent means that they are not involved in the application nor closely aligned to the applicants. Conflicts of interest will be declared and managed. Once reviews are complete, scores and reviewer comments will be considered by the review panel. Decisions will be communicated by 31 October 2026. All decisions are final.

Criterion	Weighting
Contribution to bringing an end to diabetes stigma and discrimination: <i>Is the activity aligned with the consensus, Pledge, and / or Global Summit? Does the proposed activity make a clear and meaningful contribution to ending diabetes stigma and discrimination?</i>	30%
Meaningful participation of people with lived experience, leadership and equity: <i>Are people living with diabetes meaningfully involved in shaping and leading the activity, and are diverse perspective included?</i>	20%
Strength of collaboration and partnership: <i>Does the team bring together the right people, expertise, perspectives, and partnerships to achieve its objectives?</i>	15%
Shared benefit and potential for ongoing action: <i>Will the activity generate benefits beyond the applicant and create opportunities for continued collaboration or impact?</i>	20%
Realistic plan, budget and timeline: <i>Is the proposed activity achievable within the available budget, timeframe, and resources?</i>	15%

Inclusion and Equity

The funding panel aims to support a diverse and inclusive portfolio of activities.

Subject to receiving eligible and fundable applications, at least one award will be made to a project led by, or majority-led by, applicants from low- and middle-income countries and/or communities with historically limited access to funding.

All applications should show an understanding of the diverse ways people experience diabetes stigma and discrimination. Projects may focus on a specific diabetes population, but applicants should briefly explain why this focus is appropriate and consider opportunities to promote understanding, inclusion, and solidarity across diabetes communities where relevant.

8. How do you apply?

Written applications must be submitted in **English** and received by **30th September 2026, 11.59pm CEST**. Applicants must complete the official application template and submit it by email to: **enddiabetesstigma@deakin.edu.au**

To ensure fair and consistent assessment, applications **must follow the application template and address all sections and word limits specified in the form**. Applications that do not use the template or that omit required sections may not be considered.



Queries may be directed to: endeddiabetesstigma@deakin.edu.au. While individual responses cannot be guaranteed, further clarifications may be shared via the website if useful to all potential applicants.

9. Reporting and responsibilities

Successful applicants will receive information about approved funding, eligible expenses, travel arrangements, reporting requirements, and a contact person for support.

Successful applicants will be expected to:

- liaise with #dedoc° to receive their travel grant. Travel will be booked via #dedoc° Perk system. Applicants should not book their own travel
- sign a funding agreement
- use funding only for approved costs and keep any required financial records
- complete the funded activity by 31 March 2027 (unless otherwise approved)
- notify the fund administrator of any significant changes
- protect privacy, consent, and confidentiality
- use respectful and non-stigmatising language
- submit a short report (e.g., 2 pages) within one month of completing the activity (no later than 30th April 2027). A short video report may also be provided (maximum 5 minutes).

Reports should briefly describe:

- the activity undertaken
- who took part and how people with lived experience were involved
- key outputs, outcomes, agreements, or commitments arising from the activity
- planned next steps and opportunities for ongoing collaboration
- lessons learned, including any challenges encountered.

Award recipients may be invited to present the learning(s), output(s) or early outcome(s) of their activity at the second Global Summit to End Diabetes Stigma (details to follow). Participation will depend on the final program, availability and travel arrangements.

We may include details of the funded activities in reports to our funders, on the End Diabetes Stigma website, and/or in future academic publications. The aim will be to help others learn more about how to advance collective efforts to end diabetes stigma and discrimination.

