**REMOVE YELLOW HIGHLIGHTED SECTIONS PRIOR TO SUBMISSION - FISCAL YEAR 2024 VERSION - UPDATED 8\_13\_25**

**IMPORTANT NOTE.** This document includes general SOPH-level information using data pulled from a variety of sources. The information on the $ awarded, overall, and by department is pulled from Tableau, which is only available to the Dean and SOPH OOR Associate and Assistant Deans. The intent of this document is for content to be further customized by the Dept. Administrator / Faculty member during the submission process. Note: Language related to DEI, LGTBQ health, SDOH and disparities was removed from this version.

**UAB Facilities & Other Resources**

**The University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB)–Ray L. Watts, MD, President**

The University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) is the only four-year, public university in Birmingham, AL, which is Alabama’s largest metropolitan area. Developed from an academic extension center established in 1936, the institution became a four-year campus in 1966 and a fully autonomous institution in 1969. Today, it is one of three institutions in the University of Alabama System and is designated a R1 research institution. In the fall of 2024, more than 20,000 students from more than 100 countries were enrolled at UAB pursuing studies in over 180 degrees in 12 academic divisions leading to bachelor's, master's, doctoral, and professional degrees in the social and behavioral sciences, the liberal arts, business, education, engineering, and health-related fields including medicine, dentistry, optometry, nursing, and public health. UAB boasts many nationally ranked programs, with 6 graduate and professional programs ranked in the nation’s top 10 by U.S. News and World Report in 2025. This includes the School of Health Professions Master of Science in Health Administration program and 5 programs within the School of Nursing. In the 2025 edition of the U.S. News and World Report Best Colleges, UAB was ranked No. #136 in National Universities and No. #69 in Top Public Schools. In 2025, UAB ranked in the top 6% of global universities by U.S. News & World Report international rankings. In Alabama, Niche ranked UAB #2 for Best Colleges, #1 for Colleges with the Best Professors, and #2 for Colleges with the Best Academics in 2025. In 2023, UAB was recognized for the first time as one of the best colleges in the nation to work for, according to the Great Colleges to Work For® program. In 2021, Forbes named UAB America’s #1 Best Large Employer. The Association of Public Land-grant Universities also designated UAB as an Innovation and Economic Prosperity University in 2020. The University has grown from 15 blocks in 1969 to more than 100 blocks with over 200 buildings providing over 11 million square feet of space currently. UAB and the UAB Health System employs more than 28,000 people across its university and hospital entities and is the largest single employer in the state of Alabama with an economic impact exceeding $12.1 billion a year. UAB's research enterprise continues to be globally renowned. UAB is carrying on the most successful era of research funding in the university’s history, with research expenditures growing by 82 percent over the past decade. In FY24, research expenditures totaled more than $865 million. In funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), UAB ranks 13th among public universities (top four percent) and 25th overall (top five percent), and is among the top one percent of all NIH-funded organizations—public, private and international. Non-federal funding sources include state agencies, local governmental agencies, and a wide variety of private and non-profit sponsors. UAB Hospital, the centerpiece of the UAB Health System, is among the 20 largest hospitals in the United States with 1,207 licensed beds. UAB Hospital’s American College of Surgeons Verified Adult Level 1 Trauma Center is the only one of its kind in Alabama. UAB Hospital and its ambulatory clinics provide health care services for more than 1.6 million patients annually. The U.S. News & World Report Best Hospitals report listed 7 of UAB’s medical specialties in the nation’s top 50 programs of their kind and named UAB the best hospital in Alabama.

The scientific environment provided at UAB has been cultivated and refined to ensure the success of its programs. UAB provides outstanding institutional support in the form of state-of-the-art facilities, highly qualified staff, a supportive administrative infrastructure that functions to assist and minimize the administrative burden of the investigator, and a demonstrated collaborative spirit. UAB is constantly adapting to the scientific environment in order to benefit the investigators as well as the science.

**School of Public Health - Paul C. Erwin, MD, DrPH-Dean**

The School of Public Health (SOPH) at UAB is the only accredited School of Public Health in Alabama by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) which is an independent agency recognized by the US Department of Education to accredit schools of public health. UAB SOPH is comprised of about 90 full-time faculty members complemented by an additional 100 part-time and volunteer faculty in Departments of Epidemiology, Biostatistics, Environmental Health Sciences, Health Behavior, and Health Policy and Organization. The UAB SOPH awards a Bachelor of Science (BS), Master of Public Health (MPH), Master of Science in Public Health (MSPH), Doctor of Public Health (DrPH), and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degrees. Online degree programs are also offered- MPH in Environmental Health & Toxicology (ENHQ); MPH in Occupational Health and Safety (OHSQ Online MPH in Health Care Organization (HCOP); MPH in Maternal & Child Health Policy & Leadership (MCPL); and Coordinated MPH in Maternal & Child Health Policy & Leadership/Master of Social Work Online. U.S. News and World Report consistently includes the UAB SOPH in the top 15 Public Health Schools in the United States. In 2025, U.S. News & World Report recognized UAB as No. 15 for Public Health Schools; with the departments being recognized as No. 18 in Best Biostatistics Programs, No. 22 for Best Epidemiology Programs, No. 15 for Best Health Policy and Management Programs, and No. 17 for Best Social and Behavioral Sciences Programs.

UAB SOPH has an increasingly broad and skilled faculty that provides leadership and support for several key national and international health initiatives while undertaking an array of important research projects. The school is second only to the School of Medicine at UAB for extramural research funding among all 12 schools at UAB. In 2024, the UAB SOPH had more than $80 million in grants and contracts and totaled more than $640 million in research expenditures. In 2024, UAB SOPH ranked 17th among All Schools of Public Health and 9th for All Public Schools of Public Health for NIH funding. The School serves as the clinical or coordinating center for several large, multi-site cohorts, trials, and other studies. A few examples include the Reasons for Geographic and Racial Differences in Stroke Study (REGARDS), Risk Underlying Rural Areas Longitudinal Cohort Study (RURAL), and Coronary Artery Risk Development in Young Adults Study (CARDIA). The school is home to several training grants including two Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award Institutional Research Training Grant for predoctoral students (T32). The five SOPH departments engage in numerous interdisciplinary training programs with the Graduate School and the various health professional schools at UAB.

The SOPH is home to several public health practice-oriented centers including the Lister Hill Center for Health Policy, Sparkman Center for Global Health, Center for the Study of Community Health, Deep South Center for Occupational Health & Safety, Region IV Public Health Training Center, and more. The School is also home to several groups that lead and contribute to research at UAB including the DATA Coordinating and Collaborative Research Unit, Survey Research Unit, and Applied Evaluation and Assessment Collaborative. Faculty frequently guest lectures in other departments, schools, and centers and utilize faculty from other departments and public health practice partners as guest lecturers in the Master of Public Health degree curriculum. The UAB SOPH has an increasingly broad and skilled faculty that provides leadership and support for several key national and international health initiatives while undertaking an array of important research projects.

**Lister Hill Center for Health Policy: Dr. Peter Ginter, PhD –Interim Director**

The mission of the Lister Hill Center for Health Policy is to connect and support those seeking to improve health outcomes through policy. We aim to enhance opportunities for policy collaboration through education both of faculty and students, create opportunities for dissemination of information through newsletters and policy briefs, fund academic research seeking to impact health policy, provide reputable data sources for academic research, and empower students and community leaders to affect policy change. The Center’s seminar series provides an opportunity to engage with health policy scholars.

**Sparkman Center for Global Health: Olakunle Alonge, PhD, MD, MPH - Director and Anna Helova, DrPH, MA, MBA *–* Deputy Director**

The Sparkman Center for Global Health (SCGH) (<https://www.uab.edu/sparkmancenter>) was established at the UAB School of Public Health (SOPH) with a federal endowment in 1979 as the Sparkman Center for International Public Health Education (SCIPHE) with a primary mission of developing public health training capacity with international partners. SCGH has historically worked closely with country partners and institutions to establish Public Health training programs at the University of the West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica (1982), Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia in Lima, Peru (1987), Universidad del Valle in Cali, Columbia (1992), Chiang Mai University in Chiang Mai, Thailand (1990), and Mahidol University in Bangkok, Thailand (1990).

In 2003, in the context of many developments and evolving perspectives and challenges in the areas of international development and global health, the vision and mission of the Sparkman Center were changed with the approval of the UA Board of Trustees. The name was also changed to the UAB John J. Sparkman Center for Global Health. Dr. Craig M. Wilson assumed leadership of SCGH in 2007 and, along with an advisory staff, identified a limited number of programs for strategic investments based on faculty and institutional strengths.  Building on these plans the SCGH worked with the following institutions to open MPH programs in late 2009 and 2010: Manipal University in Manipal, India with an initial focus on environmental and occupational health; University of Kelaniya (UK) in Colombo, Sri Lanka; Aga Khan University, Karachi, Pakistan with a new tract in Environmental Health; University of the West Indies in St. Augustine, Trinidad & Tobago. Dr. Janet Turan assumed the leadership of SCGH in 2018 and, along with an advisory staff, identified additional strategic opportunities. In 2023 Olakunle Alonge, PhD was named as center director. With his leadership, the Sparkman Center focuses on the development of sustainable approaches to promote health among global communities through support for interdisciplinary education, research, global health practice, and community engagement in collaboration with international and domestic partners.

The Sparkman Center has a network of internationally recognized UAB faculty, Sparkman Scholars, which aims to facilitate the development of new collaborations across and outside of UAB, provides an opportunity to seek informal advice on international research planning and implementation, exchange of knowledge, and present preliminary research results. Sparkman Center Scholars also mentor and collaborate with a competitive group of students, Sparkman Center Fellows, on projects in areas of global health research, leadership, and practice. The Sparkman Center provides an opportunity to advance global health work by Sparkman Center Scholars, Fellows (students), and nationally and internationally known experts through a semester-long seminar series, and most recently, the reinvented summer institute, a week-long intensive training for global health professionals. Additionally, UAB students are eligible to apply for global health internships and travel funding. The Sparkman Center has a 1600 sq. ft. of office and meeting space in the Ryals Public Health Building.

**DATA Coordinating and Collaborative Research Unit (DATA CRU)**

The DATA CRU has over 40 full-time staff members including clinical research specialists and coordinators, program managers and coordinators, statisticians, and programmers.  The staff are trained in ICH Good Clinical Practice (GCP) and are knowledgeable in FDA regulations for GCP and clinical trials and have 100 years of combined experience in research management. The DATA CRU currently manages dozens of active protocols, ranging from single-site projects to multi-site international longitudinal studies and randomized trials. Our staff are involved in all aspects of study design and protocol implementation.  Specifics include case report form creation, electronic data systems development and testing, site training and monitoring, participant engagement and data collection, regulatory documentation and compliance, data and safety monitoring, statistical design and analysis, final reporting, and protocol closeout.

The Research Programming Group (RPG) is a key unit within the DATA CRU.  The programming staff have experience in producing stand alone, client server, or web-based data management systems, using JAVA, XML, C++, VB, and SQL, and has the ability to create applications on both Linux and Microsoft platforms.  Importantly, our web-based electronic data entry and management systems meet 21 CFR Part 11 guidelines.

**Survey Research Unit (SRU)**

The SRU is a formally designated UAB Service Center that has operated since 1995. The mission of the SRU is to provide scientifically valid survey results for our clients to reach their research goals and objectives. The SRU works with investigators from across the UAB campus as well as state and national groups.

Services include technical assistance in survey design, questionnaire development and sampling methods, conduct of Computer Assisted Telephone Interview (CATI) and Computer Assisted Personal Interview (CAPI) surveys, mail surveys, web-based surveys, in-person interviews, data entry, data editing, database documentation, data analysis and manuscript and report preparation. The SRU also has experience recruiting and screening participants for randomized controlled trials and applying the tools and techniques of population survey design to rapidly accelerate participant recruitment.

The SRU has 37 CATI on site stations, 41 remote stations, and 6 CATI supervisor stations. The UAB SRU maintains a cadre of approximately 50 Survey Research Interviewers, 6 supervisors, 1 program coordinator, 1 statistician, 2 program managers, an operations manager, and 2 UAB faculty members who serve as assistant director and director. All staff and interviewers are HIPAA and IRB certified.

Interviews are regularly recorded and audited as part of a quality assurance program. The SRU has conducted close to a million CATI interviews since its inception, averaging 90,000 mailed surveys annually, and collecting data for more than 150 projects, leading to over 800 peer-reviewed journal publications.  The UAB SRU maintains a reserve of an additional 10 to 15 Research Interviewers that can be called upon to deal with short-term surges in demand, and an active recruiting and training program for Research Interviewers to meet any long-term increases in demand.

**Department of Biostatistics: Jeff Szychowski, PhD, Chair**

The Department has 18 faculty members and 50 staff, with research emphases in the broad areas of statistical genetics and the management of large epidemiological studies and clinical trials. Research directed by faculty in the Department of Biostatistics during FY2024 was $16 million (96.2% from the National Institutes of Health), and, in addition to operating multiple Statistical Coordinating Centers, includes investigations in diverse areas such as the methodological development of techniques in statistical genetics; understanding the causes of the excess stroke mortality in the southeastern US; epidemiology and treatment of multiple sclerosis; and advancing techniques to determine the number of patients needed in randomized clinical trials using data from nested pilot studies.

**Department of Environmental Health Sciences: Jeffrey Wickliffe, PhD, Chair**

The mission of the department is to foster excellence in scientific research, teaching/training, outreach, and practice with the goal of identifying, understanding, and preventing environmentally and occupationally related diseases and injuries in Alabama, our region, the United States, and globally. The department has 13 full-time faculty, 11 staff, and approximately 60 master’s students, and 12 doctoral students. Faculty research expertise includes aging, air pollution, alternative tobacco products, children’s environmental health, chemical toxicology, climate change, community-based research, disasters, drought, environmental epidemiology, environmental and occupational exposure assessment, environmental justice, environmental nursing, flooding, geospatial analysis, heat stress, industrial hygiene, industrial ventilation, lung function, mental health, neurological diseases, personal protective equipment, metals exposure, respirable development, social factors , noise, vascular and muscular health, vibration, urban modeling and resilience, and water sanitation and hygiene. Research directed by faculty in the Department of Environmental Health Sciences during FY2024 was $5.8 million (84.6% from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)

**Department of Environmental Health Sciences Laboratory Equipment and Resources**

The resources in the department are varied based on the expertise of the faculty. The department has Haz-Dust EPAM-5000 which are continuous particulate monitors, two microbalances, one that is climate controlled, PDR 1500 Data RAMs, low-cost sensors (Airbeams), personal air monitors such as the impactors and cyclones, area monitors, multiple types of pumps, and filters for gravimetric analysis, Defender calibrators, spirometers for lung function testing, wearables to measure air pollution, stands to hold the sampling equipment, drones, and photoionization detectors (PIDs). The department has one lab that can store and prepare samples. The lab has two -80C freezers, one -20C freezer, two BSL-2 hepa-filtered cabinets, three cell-culture incubators (CO2 or other gases), one liquid nitrogen dewar, ~200 ft2 cell culture laboratory space, ~400 ft2 laboratory space with one Agilent 5977C MSD with 8860 GC and a HydroInert Inert Plus GC/MSD Source. The instrument also has a 7650 ALS 50 Vial Automatic Liquid Sampler and all the necessary sample preparation equipment.

Housed within the EHS department is the NIOSH (National Institute for Safety and Health) funded Deep South Center of Occupational Health and Safety, which has two laboratories and one teaching lab. The Ken Dillon Industrial Hygiene Research Laboratory is equipped for conducting research and teaching in air sampling and analysis, respiratory protection, personal exposure, indoor air quality, and (nano) material synthesis/fabrication and testing. The laboratory has its own clean compressed air system; it has vacuum, de-ionized water and natural gas outlets and fume hoods for conducting research dealing with volatile compounds and aerosols. It also has glassware, bench top stands and filtration apparatus, precision balances and all necessary supplies for wet chemistry. Equipment and instrumentation in the lab include: a Gas chromatograph with flame ionization detector, Surface area and porosity analyzer ASAP 2020 Physisorption, Dynamic Breathing Machine, DustTrak aerosol monitors, Optical particle counter, Condensation particle counter, Atmosphere Generators, Infrared air analyzer, Gas monitor Environmental Test Chamber, and various other instrumentation for air sampling and physical agent monitors. The industrial hygiene teaching laboratory houses additional equipment for educating students. The third laboratory in the NIOSH Deep South Center is the Occupational Exposure Assessment and Control and has many of the same equipment as the Ken Dillan Industrial Hygiene Research Laboratory. Furthermore, the equipment and instrumentation used in the lab include Vibration dosimeters, Triaxial accelerometers, Noise dosimeters, Sound level meter, Wearable core body temperature (CBT) monitor, Ingestible CBT pill, Respiratory fit tester, Photoionization detectors, Personal Aerosol Monitor, Anemometer Balometer, Laser Doppler flowmetry and a myotonometer.

**Department of Epidemiology: Cora Elizabeth (Beth) Lewis, MD, MSPH, Chair**

The Department of Epidemiology in the School of Public Health has a two-fold mission: First, it provides a scientific basis for disease prevention and control through its research, teaching, and service programs. The Department has 21 faculty members, 46 staff persons, and approximately 215 master’s students, and 18 doctoral students during the 2024-25 academic year. Department activities encompass research and educational foci in epidemiology, the distribution and determinants of disease in humans, and prevention with particular emphasis on both non-communicable (e.g., cardiovascular, cancer, and kidney diseases and injury) and communicable (e.g., infectious disease) outcomes. Faculty provide expertise in aging and musculoskeletal health, cancer, injury, multi-omics, obesity and energy balance and related behaviors, population genetics and epigenetics, reproductive health, and social and environmental factors. Several faculty in the Department of Epidemiology also have leadership roles in national and international population-based prospective cohort studies, randomized controlled trials, and coordinating centers. Also, faculty in the department are leaders in national consortia programs such as the NHLBI Transomics for Precision Medicine Program (TOPMed) and the Cohorts for Heart and Aging Research in Genomic Epidemiology. Research directed by faculty in the Department of Epidemiology during FY2024 was $14.5 million (91.7% from the National Institutes of Health).

**Department of Epidemiology Research Clinic**

The Department of Epidemiology Research Clinic is located on the seventh floor of the Medical Towers Building in Birmingham’s Southside, adjacent to the UAB campus. The clinical facilities are designed especially for clinical trials and observational studies, containing all the necessary facilities for participant assessments and group meetings in a secure access-controlled environment. This space includes a reception area located just inside the clinic between the elevators and the waiting room and large waiting room with a television and magazine racks, which seats 23 participants comfortably. It also includes a private snack area equipped with a microwave, refrigerator, and coffee machine for study participants. The Department of Epidemiology Research Clinic includes five large interview and examination rooms and five smaller rooms for patient interviews; many of these rooms have attached private bathrooms. Staff offices are located on the seventh floor of Medical Towers and additional space, located on the first floor of the Medical Towers Building, houses a locked medical records room; furnished with file carriages. Participant parking is available on the second and third floors of the Medical Towers Building and behind the building in a gated lot.

Laboratory. The Department of Epidemiology Research Clinic contains a fully equipped laboratory with a separate phlebotomy area containing three phlebotomy chairs. Adjacent to the reception area is the specimen processing area including 30 feet of counter space to prepare blood and urine specimens to ship to other labs for analyses. The laboratory space includes two sinks, phlebotomy supply cabinets, -70°C freezers with CO2 back-up systems, ice machine, microscopes, and two refrigerated centrifuges.

Equipment. The Department of Epidemiology Research Clinic houses equipment, including a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) machine (ONI, Inc. OrthOne 1.5 Tesla superconducting extremities magnet with circumferential coil), GE LOGIQ E10 ultrasound imaging system, Planmed XFI - Weight Bearing CT Upright for 3D imaging of upper and lower extremities, MCG Diagnostics Ultima CardioO2 Gas Exchange Analysis System, Trackmaster treadmill, Parvo Medics metabolic measurement system, Q4000 model ECG monitor, pulmonary function equipment, automated and manual blood pressure equipment, platform scales and Harpenden stadiometers, AMTI force plate for assessing muscle power, portable gait lab to measure gait variability/GAITRite portable walkway system with video software for gait analysis, somatosensory and vibratory threshold equipment, EMED-x/E sensor system (pedobarometry) for measuring dynamic and static pressure distribution, electromyograph (4-channel), two algometers for measuring pressure pain threshold, movement monitoring system, Axivity AX3 and AX6 activity monitors, and one biphasic automated external defibrillator (AED).

**Department of Health Behavior: Suzanne Judd, PhD, Chair**

The Department of Health Behavior in the UAB School of Public Health (SOPH) is comprised of 16 full-time faculty and 11 staff employees. Faculty are trained in the behavioral sciences to address the various factors influencing individual and population health. The Department offers both an MPH training program and a PhD program in Health Behavior. The department’s goal is to bring together teaching, research, and service activities to promote healthy lifestyle behaviors. Research conducted by health behavior faculty seeks to improve the public’s health related to topics such as obesity, homelessness, sexual health risks, physical and intellectual disabilities, health communication, cardiovascular disease, cancer, and program evaluation. Research directed by faculty in the Department of Health Behavior during FY2024 was $0.8 million (75% from the National Institutes of Health).

**Department of Health Policy and Organization: Martha Wingate, DrPH, Chair**

The Department of Health Policy and Organization includes 1 University Professor**,** 27 full-time,  and 6 Emeritus faculty and 33 staff employees. The Department aims to direct, shape, and improve the changing public health environment through 1) creating and sharing evidence to inform policy and practice, 2) developing the next generation of public health practice and research professionals, and 3) collaborating with local, state, national, and international public health partners to address critical challenges and implement solutions. The Department provides training and education at the master's and doctoral levels. Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) degrees are offered in Health Policy and Organization, Maternal and Child Health Policy and Leadership. The Department also offers a Master of Science in Public Health (MSPH) in Outcomes Research, and the Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) degree has concentrations in Health Policy and Organization, Maternal and Child Health Policy, Outcomes Research, and Preparedness Leadership. The HPO Department occupies one-half of the fifth floor of the Ryals Building with a suite of faculty offices, staff offices, and student cubicles. We also have seven rooms on the fourth floor and 22 suites on the second floor, including administrative offices and a dedicated team for grants administration and management located in two suites on the fourth floor. Research directed by faculty in the Department of Health Policy and Organization during FY2024 was $43.2 million (78.5% from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention).

**School of Medicine: Anupam Agarwal, Dean**

As the largest School within UAB, the School of Medicine is dedicated to the education of physicians and scientists in all of the disciplines of medicine and biomedical investigation. The school is made up of over 800 students, more than 1100 residents, and over 1800 faculty members in 28 academic departments. The school provides medical education and internship opportunities for students throughout the world. Its comprehensive approach to teaching future physicians covers all facets of medicine, including medical education, research, and patient care -- delivered in one of the most technologically advanced medical facilities in the country. The School of Medicine has nationally recognized clinical programs in many areas including, but not limited to Nephrology, Oncology, Neurology, Psychiatry, and Immunology/Rheumatology. The School of Medicine is also a national leader in research and has been ranked in the top 30 of NIH funded Schools of Medicine for more than 20 years. In 2024, the School of Medicine received $271 million in NIH funding, ranking them No. 28 among all schools for NIH funding, and No. 12 among public schools for NIH funding. In 2024, nine departments were ranked in the top 20 for NIH funding, including No. 18 Dermatology, No. 16 Microbiology, No. 12 Biomedical Engineering, and No 10. Obstetrics and Gynecology.

**Department of Medicine, Mark Dransfield, MD, Chair**

The UAB Department of Medicine (DOM) is made of 10 divisions including Cardiovascular Disease, Clinical Immunology and Rheumatology, Endocrinology, Gastroenterology and Hepatology, General Internal Medicine, Gerontology, Hematology Oncology, Infectious Disease, Nephrology, and Pulmonary, Allergy and Critical care. The department ranks #17 in the nation in NIH research and has award-winning scientific discovery programs. The DOM strives for excellence in teaching, research and patient care. In this way, it is committed to providing outstanding clinical service to its patients and to the community, to providing exceptional medical education for medical students, residents, and other health professionals, and to providing innovative research to expand the frontiers of biomedical knowledge and clinical practice. Underlying this mission statement is the belief that biomedical research is the academic center’s defining characteristic.

**UAB’s Harbert Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship**

The Bill L. Harbert Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (HIIE) assists UAB faculty, staff, and students to protect and commercialize their inventions. HIIE fosters an ecosystem that promotes and sustains innovative and entrepreneurial excellence through the building of relationships between research and industry in the local community, and beyond. HIIE strategically evaluates, protects, and licenses technology while also providing resources for patenting, funding, and startup formation. With total research expenditures exceeding $602 million, UAB is a powerhouse for academic, clinical and research innovation. The HIIE facilitates rapid development of new ideas, products and technologies and prepares faculty, students, and researchers to become entrepreneurs in an increasingly technology-driven ecosystem. To date, the HIIE office has received more than 2,800 intellectual property disclosures, facilitated the issue of more than 600 U.S. patents, and assisted with the creation of nearly 75 companies based on UAB technologies, generating more than $100 million in total revenue. In 2023 alone, HIIE generated more than $6 million in revenues with 123 intellectual property disclosures, 40 licenses, and 18 U.S. patents. The institute also achieved its ninth straight year with a positive bottom line, putting HIIE among top 20 percent nationally.

**Southern Research**

Southern Research (SR) (prior to 2015 referred to as Southern Research Institute or SRI) is a not-for-profit research organization that has been in operation since 1941. In terms of drug discovery and development, SR has a proven record of success such as seven FDA-approved anticancer drugs as well as pioneered works in other therapeutic areas including infectious diseases, neurology, rare diseases, metabolic disorders, *etc*. SR is located in Birmingham, Alabama and employs approximately 195 research scientists, technical staff, and support staff, and has a long-standing record of productivity in conducting governmental and industrial research grants and contracts. SR is internationally recognized for its outstanding track record in the discovery and development of antiviral drugs and small molecule cancer therapeutics. For example, six FDA-approved anticancer drugs (lomustine, carmustine, dacarbazine, fludarabine, clofarabine, and pralatrexate) and one cytoprotective agent (ethyol) were all discovered and developed at SR. SR is also a major contributor to the NCI’s Chemical Biological Consortium and was a past member of the Molecular Libraries Probe Production Centers Network, a collaborative research initiative to identify small molecule chemical probes for the biomedical research community.

**University Wide Interdisciplinary Research Centers (UWIRCs)**

The University-Wide Interdisciplinary Research Center (UWIRC) program was proposed in 1995 to promote interdisciplinary research, education, and service. It was implemented with initial funding in 1997 for ten “full” centers and seven “pilot” centers. Since its inception, this program has played a major role in promoting interdisciplinary, cross-institutional research collaboration at UAB. The UWIRC program serves to catalyze cross-cutting research and discovery while adding to the generation of new scientific knowledge and its applications to benefit society. University-wide thematic centers provide a framework for research and training (including cancer, aging, neuroscience, infectious diseases, substance use disorders, maternal health, nutrition, diabetes, and many more). These multidisciplinary centers are open to all investigators with interests consistent with the mission of the given center. The centers assist in coordinating thematically oriented efforts for extramural grants and contracts, in developing center-associated core facilities and in integrating enrichment programs that are important trainee resources. Approximately every five years, each UWIRC was selected through a competitive selection process. To be designated a UWIRC, centers require sponsorship from at least three UAB schools, substantive interdisciplinary faculty involvement; contribution to the intellectual environment in order to enhance faculty and student recruitment, development, and retention; an extramural financial base to support center and core activities; internal and external review processes to ensure quality and productivity; and leadership in the integration of research and service including community outreach or partnerships. Through a competitive review process, the Deans of sponsoring Schools and the Provost provide modest funds for research cores, pilot and feasibility studies and selective enrichment activities.

**Center for Clinical and Translational Science (CCTS)**

The CCTS was officially approved by the University of Alabama Board of Trustees on February 3, 2006 and funded by the NIH on May 19, 2008. The mission of the center is enhance the translation of fundamental and clinical research into improvements for human health and health care delivery. The CCTS and its Partner Network are committed to increasing research capacity, accelerating research processes, developing, and supporting excellence in the research workforce while providing creative and innovative approaches to major health and health care delivery challenges. The CCTS aims to fortify the advancement of translational science through community engagement and vibrant connections within the CCTS Partner Network. This innovative partnership is well integrated into the fabric of the CCTS and provides the foundation for addressing healthy communities through collaborative research and training efforts. The CCTS offers access to a number of resources and capacities through its co-leadership of the Clinical Trials Initiative as well as the Training Academy and the Research Commons.

**Clinical Trials Initiative**

The mission of the UAB Clinical Trials Initiative is to promote, foster, and enhance high-quality clinical research at UAB. By promoting clinical research, the effort will help the UAB community meet its mission goals of excellence in patient care, education, research, and community service. The Institution is committed to providing world-class patient care with innovative therapies to treat disease, promote health and wellness, and provide opportunities for patient participation in clinical research. As an academic medical center, it is our responsibility to participate in research that leads to new discoveries and advances the art and science of medicine for future generations. This collaboration provides services to:

* UAB researchers and research teams, assisting with feasibility assessment, methodologic rigor, study start-up, implementation, and reporting.
* Patients and the general public, providing opportunities for study participation.
* Sponsors, helping them identify UAB investigators for participation in their research.

As part of this effort, the CCTS mission addresses four programmatic tasks: 1) performance standards to meet and exceed national standards; 2) educated and knowledgeable workforce; 3) implementation of scientifically reproducible research; and 4) services to support rigorous design and interpretation. Toward these goals, the CCTS Hub has developed a multi-modal implementation strategy overseen by the Clinical Trials Administrative Office, Clinical Trials Administrative Committee (CTAC), guidance in Quality and Efficiency, and training via Regulatory Knowledge and Support.

**CCTS Training Academy**

The mission of the CCTS Training Academy is to promote the continuous development of knowledge and skills for learners at all academic and career stages through a portfolio of robust and innovative training programs implemented through didactic, experiential, and self-directed approaches. The CCTS is an innovative and evolving network of research professionals and visionary faculty that performs exemplary work in the clinical and translational science research communities while carrying high standards set by the National Center for Advancing Clinical and Translational Science (NCATS). The CCTS Training Academy domain offers interdisciplinary, educational programs and enrichment activities for research teams across the academic career arc from graduate and postgraduate students to early career and senior faculty. The Training Academy is continuously enhancing CCTS Training Programs and finding creative methods to deliver stellar programs conducive for success in the translational science workforce.

**CCTS Research Commons**

Through the Research Commons, investigators can access research-related services and resources available at UAB and our Partner Network institutions. The Commons provides individualized assistance to all investigators, from trainees to full professors. CCTS personnel facilitate scientific connections by directing investigators to appropriate capacities, facilitation of scientific interactions, and promotion of CCTS opportunities.

**Clinical Research Services**

The CCTS supports cutting-edge expertise and facilities for investigators conducting human subjects research. A centralized hub provides a supportive environment for early phase and task-intensive clinical research in humans. The CCTS provides cost-effective and high-quality services that exemplifies best practice for every stage of the clinical research study lifecycle. The CCTS Clinical Translation staff also offers training to strengthen the research skills of every member of your team. The environment ensures safety and provides standardized pathways for the administration of investigational agents and the management of valuable patient samples essential for translational advances. CCTS clinical services include the Clinical Research Unit (CRU), the Phase I Clinical Trials Unit, the Child Health Research Unit (CHRU), the Clinical Trials Administrative Office (CTAO), the Clinical Research Support Program (CRSP), the Specimen Processing and Analytical Nexus (SPAN), CCTS Biorepository, and the Bionutrition Unit.

**UAB Libraries**

The UAB Libraries offer sufficient resources, staffing, and services to support the grant writing and submission process. Notable among these are:

(i) The Lister Hill Library of the Health Sciences: Established in 1945 to support the University of Alabama School of Medicine, the Lister Hill Library is the largest biomedical library in Alabama and served as a Resource Library for the Southeast/Atlantic Region in the Network of the National Library of Medicine (NNLM). It is the main health sciences library on the UAB campus, supporting graduate and professional programs in the health sciences. The UAB Libraries have an active library liaison program supporting all academic and health science units on campus. The program plays a pivotal role in fostering effective communication between the UAB Libraries and their user communities. Liaison librarians in the Lister Hill Library Department of Clinical, Academic, & Research Engagement are assigned liaison responsibilities for the UAB Schools of Dentistry, Health Professions, Nursing, Medicine, Optometry, and Public Health. Liaison librarians can assist with systematic reviews and in-depth expert searches. Additionally, the Lister Hill Library has a Systematic Review Coordinator to coordinate all systematic review requests.

(ii) The Mervyn H. Sterne Library: The Sterne Library was officially opened in 1973, four years after UAB was established, and its collections support teaching and research in the arts and humanities, business, education, engineering, natural sciences, mathematics, and the social sciences. Librarians in the Sterne Library Department of Research & Learning are assigned liaison responsibilities for the UAB Schools of Business, Education, and Engineering, and the College of Arts & Sciences.

(iii) Office of Scholarly Communication: The UAB Libraries’ Office of Scholarly Communication (OSC) was established in 2021 to support the UAB community in navigating and understanding scholarly communication principles including copyright and fair use, author agreements, research data management, scholarly impact, and public access to scholarly works. Services provided by the OSC include on-demand consultations and workshops on scholarly communication topics and assistance selecting journals and identifying open access funding sources. The OSC also provides extensive Research Data Management support such as data interviews, Data Management Plan review, and data repository selection.

(iv) Resources: The UAB Libraries provide access to 645 databases through its web site. These databases support all areas of UAB teaching, research, and scholarship, on both the academic and medical sides of campus. All databases are available 24/7 and are available from both on and off-campus. They include databases such as Embase, PubMed, SCOPUS, and Web of Science from hundreds of library vendors including Elsevier, Wiley, Proquest, Springer, Wolters Kluwer, and EBSCO. Specialized databases from smaller vendors such as VisualDX, Clarivate, Thieme, and JoVe are also available. The UAB Libraries’ collection includes more than 2 million titles, including more than 900,000 physical books and nearly 850,000 electronic books. The number of print journals totals more than 25,000, while the number of electronic journals totals more than 105,000. The UAB Libraries also hold nearly 125,000 microform titles.

**Computer and Information Technology (IT): School of Public Health and University Wide**

**UAB Information Technology Operations:** The responsibility for campus network, IT resources, and IT security resides with the UAB Office of the Vice President for Information Technology. UAB Health System IT operations are provided by the Health System Information Services (HSIS) unit. Within UAB-IT, the Research Computing unit provides shared, subsidized access to computing resources supporting all research, including SOPH-conducted and supported projects. Most resources provided by Research Computing are provided at no cost for routine processing needs. A cost schedule can be arranged for large capacity needs (more than several hundred TB of storage or reserved allocations of high capacity HPC nodes to individual projects).

**University-Wide Computing Hardware Resources:** UAB's software depot offers campus affiliates a wide range of softwares and computing packages/libraries that can be used towards the conducted research. A comprehensive list of softwares can be accessed using campus affiliation login credentials, blazer-id.  For more computationally intensive tasks, there are numerous options as detailed in the below sections.

**University-wide Secure Storage:** Study data and databases are saved in secure storage, either hosted in virtual private cloud provisioned by **IT Infrastructure & Operations** on public cloud serviceor at the **IT Data Center**. PHI data is stored in the IT Data Center after review and approval by HSIS. Both infrastructures provide researchers with secure compute, storage, and network environments to conduct research and share findings on public facing websites. Box.com storage is also available for secure, encrypted collaborative file sharing in the cloud and can be used for public data classification. All system access is granted via a centralized authentication system within the University, which is strictly monitored and updated. Additionally, all systems within the data center must pass an architectural security review prior to entering service.

**UAB IT Research Computing (UABRC)**

The UABRC maintains the Research Computing System (RCS), an integrated computing platform that provides access to enhanced compute, storage, and network capacity for UAB investigators and their collaborators. The RCS compute resources include a high-performance compute (HPC) cluster for large scale modeling and analysis workloads, an on-site cloud platform for highly customizable virtual machine (VM) based workloads, and a container orchestration platform for cloud-native workloads. The RCS storage resources include a high-speed general parallel file system (GPFS) attached to the HPC cluster to support data analysis workloads as well as large-capacity block and object storage to support the cloud and container workloads. The RCS networking infrastructure connects the computing and storage systems via a 800 Gb/s Ethernet interconnect that provides ample capacity for data access and movement between the compute and storage resources. RCS networking also includes connectivity to the UAB Campus Network, a dedicated enhanced data rate /high data rate (EDR/HDR) Infiniband fabric for low-latency data exchange on the HPC cluster, and a 40 Gb/s Science (demilitarized zone) DMZ for high-speed data transfers with national research and education networks.

These RCS resources combine to provide a low-friction application hosting platform that enables research teams to build and deploy preferred tools without enforced refactoring to adopt applications to campus resources. The RCS resources are deployed spanning two data centers. The on-campus data center is in the recently constructed Technology Innovation Center (TIC). The off-campus data center is located at a nearby (less than 10 km) commercial facility operated by DC BLOX, a regional data center provider offering a Tier III colocation facility in Birmingham with adequate power to support the high-density power requirements for the RCS and a resilient physical infrastructure designed to withstand natural disasters. The commercial facility is connected to the campus data center via a dedicated, diverse fiber path lit with dual 100 Gb/s optics that leverages the University of Alabama System Regional Optical Network (UASRON). UABRC designs and maintains the RCS resources in open collaboration with the campus research community to ensure that the system addresses research needs and has the capacity to meet research demand.

**High-Performance Computing (Cheaha) Resources**

Cheaha is a campus high-performance computing (HPC) resource dedicated to enhancing research computing productivity at UAB. Cheaha is managed by UAB IT Research Computing (UABRC) and is available to members of the UAB community in need of increased computational capacity. Cheaha supports both high-performance computing (HPC) and high-throughput computing (HTC) paradigms. Cheaha provides 10752 CPU cores, 112 GPUs, and 88 TB of memory across 159 compute nodes interconnected via an EDR/HDR InfiniBand network, providing over 1.1 PFLOP/s of aggregate theoretical peak performance. A high-performance parallel filesystem running is connected to these HPC compute nodes via the InfiniBand fabric. Node details follow.

* Gen 7 (2017): 18 nodes, 2x14 core (504 cores total) 2.4 GHz Intel Xeon E5-2680 v4 compute nodes with 256 GB RAM, four NVIDIA Tesla P100 16 GB GPUs per node, and an EDR InfiniBand interconnect.
* Gen 8 (2019): 35 nodes, 2x12 core (840 cores total) 2.60 GHz Intel Xeon Gold 6126 compute nodes with 21 compute nodes at 192 GB RAM, 10 nodes at 768 GB RAM and 4 nodes at 1.5 TB RAM, and an EDR InfiniBand interconnect.
* Gen 9 (Q2 2021): 52 nodes, 2x24 core (2496 cores total) 3.0 GHz Intel Xeon Gold 6248R compute nodes each with 578 GB RAM and EDR InfiniBand interconnect.
* Gen 10 (Q4 2021): 34 nodes, 2x64 core (4352 cores total) 2.0 GHz AMD Epyc 7713 Milan compute nodes each with 512 GB RAM and EDR InfiniBand interconnect.
* Gen 11 (Q4 2023): 20 nodes, 2x64 core (2560 cores total) 2.0 GHz AMD Epyc 7713 Milan compute nodes each with 512 GB RAM and 2 A100 80 GB GPUs.

Cheaha provides researchers with both a web-based interface, via open OnDemand, and a traditional command-line interactive environment, via secure shell (SSH). These interfaces provide access to many scientific tools that can leverage a dedicated pool of on-premises compute resources via the Slurm batch scheduler. The on-premises compute pool provides access to four recent generations of hardware based on the x86 64-bit architecture.

**High-Performance Computer (Cheaha) Software Tools**

General research computing and scientific programming software are available on Cheaha, including Anaconda, R and RStudio, and MATLAB through the Lmod environment module system. RStudio, MATLAB, Jupyter Notebook server, and Jupyter Lab are all available on our Open OnDemand web portal as interactive applications, along with a general-use desktop environment via no-virtual network computing(VNC), directly in the browser. Researchers are enabled to develop and share their own custom interactive applications through a sandbox application feature within Open OnDemand.

The UAB Center for Clinical and Translational Science (CCTS) Informatics group has installed and supports a variety of bioinformatics tools that are available to be run from Cheaha. Standalone packages are available for quality control (fastQC, Picard Tools), alignment (Abyss, Velvet, BWA, Bowtie) visualization (IGV), variant calling (GATK, SnpEff, annoVar), RNAseq (Cufflinks, Cuffdiff, TopHat) and microbiome and metagenomic analysis (QIIME, HUMAnN, MEGAN).

Additional scientific domain-specific software is also available, including Relion for cryo-electron microscopy analysis, AFNI for fMRI analysis, and ANSYS for simulations for research efforts of the UAB School of Engineering. Many other software packages are installed and maintained, and we encourage and facilitate researchers installing their own additional software using Anaconda, R and MATLAB package management where possible.

**On-Premises Cloud (cloud rc) Resources**

UABRC operates a production private cloud called cloud.rc based on OpenStack, which echoes the research workload support goals of the Nationals Science Foundation’s (NSF’s) Jetstream2 resource part of the ACCESS network. The Cloud.RC platform has been used to support application development and DevOps processes to research labs across campus and is increasingly being leveraged to support many aspects of research IT operations. This fabric is composed of five Dell R640 48 core 192 GB RAM compute nodes for 240 cores and 960 GB of standard cloud compute resources. In addition, the fabric features four NVIDIA DGX A100 nodes that include 8 A100 GPUs and 1 TB of RAM each. These resources are available to the research community for provisioning on demand via the OpenStack services (Ussuri release). The production implementation further supports researchers by making their hosted services available beyond campus, while adhering to standard UAB Campus Network security practices. Scientific software developers have access to the full stack for limitless development opportunities, with a frictionless migration path to public cloud providers as needed for specific research projects. A Kubernetes environment was deployed in Q3 2022 to allow for development workflows using containers. The compute resources of the Kubernetes environment are a duplicate of the cloud resources. The OpenStack and Kubernetes resources are deployed via Canonical’s Charmed operations stack enabling node migration between platforms in response to capacity demand.

**Research Computing Storage Resources**

The compute nodes on Cheaha are backed by high-performance, 7 petabyte (PB) GPFS storage on DDN SFA14KX hardware connected via an EDR /FDR InfiniBand fabric. Two additional storage systems are available to support research operations and application design. They are based on the Ceph storage technology and provide different hardware configurations to address different usage scenarios. The fabrics include a 6.9 PB archive storage fabric for long term storage (LTS) built using 12 Dell DSS7500 nodes, and an 11 PB nearline storage fabric built with 14 Dell R740xd2 nodes and 248 terabyte (TB) solid state drive (SSD) cache storage fabric (Q3 2023) built with 8 Dell 840 nodes. These storage systems provide block and object storage services to the OpenStack and Kubernetes platforms. Additionally, the object storage services are empowering research applications with cloud-native data management and availability capabilities.

**Network Resources**

The RCS networking infrastructure connects the on- and off-campus computing and storage systems via 800 Gb/s Ethernet interconnect that provides capacity for data access and movement between the compute and storage resources. RCS networking also includes a dedicated EDR/HDR Infiniband fabric for the HPC platform and a 40 Gb/s ScienceDMZ for high-speed data transfers with national research and education networks. The ScienceDMZ supports direct connection to campus and high-bandwidth regional networks via 40 Gb/s Globus Data Transfer Nodes (DTNs) providing the capability to connect data intensive research facilities directly with the high-performance computing and storage services of the RCS. This network can support very high-speed secure connectivity between nodes connected to it for high-speed file transfer of very large data sets without the concerns of interfering with other traffic on the campus backbone, ensuring predictable latencies. The Science DMZ interface with (DTNs) includes Perfsonar measurement nodes and a Bro security node connected directly to the border router that provide a “friction-free” pathway to access external data repositories as well as computational resources.

The UAB Campus Network backbone is based on a 40 Gb/s redundant Ethernet network with 480 Gb/s back-planes on the core L2/L3 Switch/Routers. For efficient management, a collapsed backbone design is used. Each campus building is connected using 10 Gb/s ethernet links over single mode optical fiber. Desktops are connected at 1 Gb/s speed. The campus wireless network blankets classrooms, common areas and most academic office buildings. UAB connects to the Internet2 high-speed research network via the UASRON, a University of Alabama System owned and operated DWDM Network offering 100 Gb/s ethernet to the Southern Light Rail (SLR)/Southern Crossroads (SoX) in Atlanta, Ga. The UASRON also connects UAB to UA, and UAH, the other two University of Alabama System institutions, and the Alabama Supercomputer Center. UAB is also connected to other universities and schools through Alabama Research and Education Network (AREN).

**Data Management and Transfer Resources**

A traditional Portable Operating System Interface (POSIX) filesystem is available on all Cheaha HPC nodes through GPFS for data requiring computational analysis, with separate data, scratch, and shared storage. Object storage is available via our LTS S3 interface. A REST endpoint is provided for LTS and exposed to the Internet to facilitate hosting research data products for external use. Block storage is available to support storage needs for our cloud and Kubernetes fabrics.

All faculty, staff and students who create a Research Computing account have immediate access to 5 TB of personal GPFS storage and may request an additional 5 TB of LTS storage. Research PI groups, Core facilities, and other research groups at UAB may request up to 25 TB of GPFS storage and 75 TB of LTS storage for shared collaboration spaces.

Globus High-Assurance (HA) endpoints are maintained on the RCS platform to facilitate internal and external data transfers. Connectors to our enterprise Box.com instance and our LTS S3 interface are made available as part of our Globus subscription. A controlled-access Science DMZ partition of our hardware is available to facilitate high-throughput, parallel batch data transfers over the available 40 Gb/s connection to the external internet. Standard data transfer software such as Rclone, AWSCLI and s3cmd, and UAB-specific documentation and support, are provided to researchers to facilitate data transfers whenever Globus is infeasible.

**Facilitation, Outreach, Documentation and Support**

UABRC provides research computation facilitation services for researchers using RCS. These services exist to reduce friction for researchers seeking to scale workflows from desktop and workstation scale up to HPC scale. Part of the facilitation service includes computational outreach efforts within UAB, including facilitating lesson design for courses making use of our platform, teaching a Data Science Journal Club course, providing how-to-use-HPC lessons at University events, and proactively identifying opportunities for education and efficiency improvements using our internal observability stack. Extensive documentation of computational capabilities, good practices for system use, references and tutorials are all available on our documentation website, publicly available on the Internet.

**Research Computing Personnel**

UAB IT Research Computing currently maintains a support staff of 14 led by the Assistant Vice President for Research Computing and includes one HPC Architect-Manager, one Research Facilitation and Data Manager, four Software developers, four Research Facilitation Scientists, and three system administrators.

**UAB Cybersecurity Policies and Practices**

UAB IT maintains a comprehensive privacy and information security program that preserves and protects the confidentiality, availability and integrity of all information assets including patients, research, customer and business data. The security program upholds values and provides high standards of service, trust, confidentiality and responsiveness. The security program include the following:

* IT security policies designed to help ensure a secure state of operations and information management.
* Technical security standards that document baseline security requirements for key technologies and platforms such as major operating systems, databases, network device operating systems, firewalls, web-server security, email, encryption, secure file transfer protocols, virus defense, media reuse and media disposal.
* A comprehensive risk management program based on the NIST Cybersecurity Framework (CSF).
* A data classification rule to assist the UAB community in the classification of data and systems to determine the appropriate level of security. All UAB data stored, processed, or transmitted must be classified in accordance with this rule. Based on classification; users are required to implement appropriate security controls.
* A data protection rule to assist the UAB research community in the protections requirements of data and systems. All UAB research data stored, processed, or transmitted must be protected in accordance with these standards. Based on the regulatory or contractual requirements of the award; researchers are required to implement appropriate security controls.
* A computer security incident response plan that is supported by cross-functional response and recovery teams.
* User system access is tightly controlled and meets standards required by various regulations (e.g. HIPAA, FERPA, etc.). Two-factor authentication is utilized for many of the shared systems. Users must agree to the requirements set forth in the password rule. We also must routinely demonstrate compliance with Federal granting agencies and the corresponding security requirements such as the NIH, FISMA and the VA.
* An enterprise firewall platform for perimeter, datacenter and customer layered protection and segmentation. The firewall also consists of an Intrusion Prevention System (IPS) as well as content filtering and malware sandboxing.
* An enterprise centralized logging solution (aka SIEM tool) to store logs and generate alerts to the Security Operations team for items that might need attention.
* In addition to the Security Operations team (SOC) who handles incident response, forensics, EDR management, firewall management, etc., we also have a Threat and Vulnerability Team (TVT) that handles penetration testing, vulnerability scanning, phishing simulations and threat hunting. We also have a Risk Management team that handles application/business unit risk assessments, 3rd party risk assessments, MFA administration, Security Awareness and Training. We also have a Security Architect who handles architectural discussions for all sorts of projects across the campus.
* UAB maintains an Internet of Things (IoT) policy to ensure all IoT devices that reside on the UAB Campus Network (wired or wireless) must be proactively managed and adhere to the university’s IoT security strategy.
* Email is monitored with the highest level of defense offered from Microsoft with their extended detection and response (XDR) platform. This includes safe attachments, impersonation and other anti-phishing methods. UAB also utilizes DMARC, DKIM and SPF for additional email best practices. We also maintain email guidelines for the UAB community to adhere to.
* Encrypted virtual private network (VPN) tunnels for business associates, staff remote access, or partner VPN connectivity.
* Capability to support encrypted secure file transfers with Globus for HPC and other cloud-based solutions for traditional cloud-based storage needs.
* Endpoint Detection / Response (EDR) agents and comprehensive patch management programs installed on all UAB managed computer workstations and servers to protect against malware infections. The EDR logs are monitored 24x7x365 by a third party to give full oversight and attention to needed items on the systems.
* A vulnerability management rule describes the process used by University of Alabama at Birmingham Information Technology (UAB IT) in mitigating the risks from computer security vulnerabilities.
* In-depth security awareness training that is provided for all Faculty and Staff.
* UAB also maintains an IT Governance program that will, in consultation with strategic campus partners, provide a review that evaluates the risk associated with the above items. This review is also intended to prevent duplication of technology while complying with security and regulatory requirements.