Applying for the NIH/SBRP Grant & Tips on Grant Proposals

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NIH/SBRP 8 Week Research Program

8 weeks of research funded by a NIH T35 Short Term Research Training Grant.

SBRP stands for Student Biomedical Research Program.
NIH/SBRP 8 Week Research Program

8 week research program April/May or May/June

Stipend 4000.00

Supported by NIH Training Grant and Donor Funds

Requires University of Michigan Faculty as Mentor
NIH/SBRP 8 Week Research Program

Oasis Course: MedAdm 8448

Application Deadline Jan 29, 2021 for Mentor and Student Sections

https://medstudents.medicine.umich.edu/sbrp-nih-supported-short-term-biomedical-research-training-program

Committee Reviews Application
NIH/SBRP 8 Week Research Program

- MSTP students not eligible

- Amount of federal support may affect your ability to directly receive stipend. Ask medfinaid@umich.edu
NIH/SB RP 8 Week Research Program

All Types of Research Funded

Needs to be Hypothesis Driven
I am going to go through the nuts and bolts of the SBRP application and then make some comments about grant writing in general.
The SBRP Application

- Title (20 words)
- Hypothesis (750 characters including spaces)
- Background (2500 characters including spaces)
- Research Design and Methods (3500 characters including spaces)
- What will be the specific tasks, activities and responsibilities of the student on a daily basis (1000 characters including spaces)
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The SBRP Application (Continued)

• Significance (750 characters including spaces)
• References (4000 characters including spaces)
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Review Criteria (5 points each)

1. Clear statement of problem, research question and hypothesis.
2. Evidence of scholarly and critical literature review
3. Research design and methodology are appropriate to answer the research question/hypothesis.
4. Student role and activities are clearly defined
5. Student/mentor relationship is strong, and there is evidence of active mentoring throughout the proposal.
Hypothesis (750 characters)

First Review Criteria:

Criteria 1. Clear statement of problem, research question and hypothesis.
**Hypothesis (750 characters)**

- Most research proposals require hypotheses. For example even if you are doing a survey or questionnaire you must have some hypothesis as to the results.

- The hypothesis section seems simple yet it is the most difficult part of any grant application.
A good hypothesis section:

- The Background Sentence
- The “Not Known” Sentence
- The Hypothesis
A good hypothesis section:

“Treatments with O-sialoglycoprotein endopeptidase (OSGE) in old mice have been shown to reverse age-related declines in activation and proliferation of CD4+ T cells. However, it is not known whether OSGE treatments can restore B cell maturation and antibody production by enhancing late CD4+ activation and expansion. We hypothesize that OSGE treatments can reverse age-related declines in antibody production in mice.”
Second Review Criteria: Evidence of scholarly and critical literature review

- Put in all information you need to understand the application.
- Define and Minimize Abbreviations.
- References are critical.
Third Review Criteria: Research design and methodology are appropriate to answer the research question/hypothesis.
Research Design and Methods (3500 characters)

- Its **Research Design** and Methods
- What are you going to do?
- How are you going to do it?
- How are you going to analyze the results?
What will be the specific tasks, activities and responsibilities of the student on a daily basis (1000 characters)

- Fourth Review Criteria: Student role and activities are clearly defined.
What will be the specific tasks, activities and responsibilities of the student on a daily basis (1000 characters)

- Can a project be completed?
- How will you organize your time?
- What specific duties will you perform?
- Who will supervise you?
• **Fifth Review Criteria:** Student/mentor relationship is strong, and there is evidence of active mentoring throughout the proposal.

• **Did you give your mentor adequate time to review your proposal?**
Significance (750 characters)

• Significance is a key part of a grant application
• Why are you doing the research?
• Why is it important?
• Write more than a sentence.
General Tips on Grant Writing
General Guide for Grant Applications
Find Funding

Find a Project and Mentor
“I want you to apply for this grant”

or you might have to find support

Find Grant Opportunities: Library Research Guide
General Guide for Grant Applications

• Internal Grants
• Foundation Grants
• Government Grants (NIH, Medicare, NSF, Defense Department, State of Michigan)
Writing A Proposal

Read Instructions Carefully

Are you Eligible to Receive the Grant?
What is the Budget?
What Expenses are Allowed?
What is the Time Frame (Start/Stop)?
General Guide for Grant Applications

Writing A Proposal

Read Instructions Carefully
What are the Deadlines (External and University)?

University Has to Sign Off on External Proposals Proposal Approval Form (PAF)
General Guide for Grant Applications

Writing A Proposal

Read Instructions Carefully

Proposal Requirements?
Page Limits?
Required Sections?
General Guide for Grant Applications

Writing A Proposal

Read a Book or Guide
Library Research Guide
General Guide for Grant Applications

Books that can be downloaded:

A Practical Guide to Writing a Ruth L. Kirschstein NRSA Grant
Andrew D. Hollenbach

Guide to Effective Grant Writing
Otto O. Yang
Common Problems With Grants:

- Lacks Impact
- Too Descriptive
- Over Ambitious
- Not Cohesive