



Department
of Health



New York State Public Health Corps (NYSPHC) Fellowship Program

NYSPHC Educational Series: Grant Writing

July 12th, 2023

12pm-1pm

Welcome!



Welcome!
Dr. Pam Factor-
Litvak



SO YOU HAVE A GREAT IDEA: THE ABC'S OF GETTING GRANT MONEY TO TEST IT

PAM FACTOR-LITVAK, PHD
PROFESSOR OF EPIDEMIOLOGY
VICE CHAIR FOR RESEARCH, DEPARTMENT OF
EPIDEMIOLOGY
ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR RESEARCH

Agenda

- How does an organization find grants,
- Defining some of the terminology (ex. RFP/RFA),
- Outline some of the basic components that come with submitting an application and what goes into preparing those components (ex. Specific Aims, Budget Justifications, Letters of Support, Statements of need, etc)
- Language/Writing style for Grant proposals,
- A brief discussion into the benefits of grant funding.

Finding (Government) Funding



The Grants Learning Center is your gateway to the federal grants world. Bookmark this page and participate in our growing communities on Blog.Grants.gov and Twitter ([@grantsdotgov](https://twitter.com/grantsdotgov)).

SEARCH GRANTS

BASIC SEARCH CRITERIA:

Keyword(s):

Opportunity Number:

FOIPA:

OPPORTUNITY STATUS:

- Forecasted (26)
- Posted (310)
- Closed (1,158)
- Archived (9,485)

FUNDING INSTRUMENT TYPE:

- All Funding Instruments
- Cooperative Agreement (11)
- Grant (4)
- Other (11)

ELIGIBILITY:

- All Eligibilities
- County governments (1)
- For profit organizations other than small businesses (1)
- Independent school districts (2)

CATEGORY:

- All Categories
- Agriculture (1)
- Business and Commerce (1)
- Community Development (1)
- Education (2)

AGENCY:

- All Agencies
- All Agency for International Development [AID] (18)
- All Department of Defense [DOD] (3)
- All Department of Health and Human Services [HHS] (2)
- All Department of State [DOS] (2)
- All Department of the Interior [DOI] (1)

[Search Tips](#) | [Export Detailed Data](#) |

SORT BY: **DATE RANGE:**

1 - 25 OF 26 MATCHING RESULTS: [« Previous](#) [1](#) [2](#) [Next »](#)

Opportunity Number	Opportunity Title	Agency	Opportunity Status	Posted Date	Close Date
720440-PLASTICPOLLUTION-RFI	Vietnam Action Against Plastic Pollution	USAID-VIE	Forecasted	01/13/2022	
72038622RFI00001	RFI for Plastics Pollution Activity	USAID-INA	Forecasted	02/02/2022	
NOT-TW-22-006	Notice of Intent to Publish a Funding Opportunity Announcement for Implementation Research on Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) Risk Factors among Low- and Middle-Income Country and Tribal Populations Living in City Environments.	HHS-NIH11	Forecasted	10/07/2022	
72026322R00002	Red Sea Initiative Request for Information	USAID-EGY	Forecasted	02/06/2022	
FA9453-23-R-001	Pacific Regional Partnership Intermediary Agreement	DOD-AFRL	Forecasted	03/17/2023	
L20AS00080	USDA/USDOJ Joint Fire Science Program (JFSP)	DOI-BLM	Forecasted	03/16/2020	
FOA-AFRL-PZLDA-2021-0001	STARBASE Wright Patt	DOD-AFRL	Forecasted	11/13/2020	
NOT-NS-23-087	Notice of Intent to Publish a Funding Opportunity Announcement for Role of Environmental Stress in the Health Inequities of Alzheimer's Disease-Related Dementias (ADRD) (R01 - Clinical Trial Not Allowed)	HHS-NIH11	Forecasted	06/21/2023	
72016921RFA00001	RFI Serbia Environmental Activity	USAID-KOS	Forecasted	02/25/2021	
72052121R00021	USAID/Haiti Water Security and Sustainable Services Activity	USAID-HAI	Forecasted	06/28/2021	
720-517-22-RFI-CMBF-00001	Caribbean Marine Biodiversity Flagship Activity.	USAID-DOM	Forecasted	04/05/2022	
720440-YSEALI-RFI	The Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative - Mekong Leadership Program	USAID-VIE	Forecasted	04/15/2022	
72061521RFI000004	Addressing Ocean Plastics in Kenya	USAID-KEN	Forecasted	08/27/2021	
72016522RFA000006	Youth Actively Create Opportunities (YACO) Amendment 1	USAID-MAC	Forecasted	07/20/2022	
RFI-621-20-WASH01	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene - Tanzania	USAID-TAN	Forecasted	03/31/2020	
72038623RFA000002	FIRE- UP: Fostering improvement in Reproductive Health/Family Planning (RH/FP) uptake by Empowering Young Populations Activity	USAID-INA	Forecasted	03/20/2023	
72016921RFA000002	RFI Serbia Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) activity	USAID-KOS	Forecasted	04/07/2021	
72061523RFI00023	Marine Biodiversity Conservation Activity – Western Indian Ocean	USAID	Forecasted	03/14/2023	
72044023RFI00001	USAID Climate Resilient Agriculture in the Mekong Delta	USAID-VIE	Forecasted	04/07/2023	

Finding (Foundation) Funding

- Your Advisory Board
- Google Search (e.g. grants homelessness)
- Regional Associations of Grant Makers
- Regional Foundation Directories (including National ones like RWJF)
- The Foundation Center Online, aka Candid

“Grants Homeless Nonprofits”

2023 Federal Homeless Assistance Grants

- 2023 Federal Homeless Assistance Grants. ...
- Continuum of Care Program (CoC) ...
- Emergency Solutions Grants Program (ESG) ...
- Family Unification Program (FUP) and Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV) ...
- Grants for the Benefit of Homeless Individuals (GBHI) ...
- HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)

More items...

 CaseWorthy
<https://caseworthy.com/guides/the-ultimate-2023-gui...>

The Ultimate 2023 Guide to Homeless Assistance Grants

Grants for homeless nonprofits



 Society for Nonprofits
https://www.snpo.org/fundingalert_bycategory

Funding Alert: Homelessness & Poverty

The Organization's Majella **Grant** program provides **grants** up to \$5,000 to support organizations that provide services to the poor. **Funding** priorities are ...

 GrantWatch
<https://www.grantwatch.com/cat/homeless-grants>


Grants for Homeless

Grants for **nonprofits** to provide programs for the **homeless**: family stability, counseling, food pantries, emergency services, and **shelters**.

 Instrumentl
<https://www.instrumentl.com/browse-grants/homeless...>

Homelessness Grants

Grants for **homeless** assistance programs and services. · View 2023 Sample **Grants** · Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas Charitable Donations · DanPaul Foundation **Grants** · NFL ...

 Fundsnet Services
<https://fundsnet-services.com/homeless...>



philanthropy
new york

A Regional Association of Grantmakers with Global Impact



Candid.

Candid at a glance ^

What do you need to move forward?


Our websites

- [Candid](#)
- [Candid Learning](#)
- [Candid Learning for Funders](#)
- [CF Insights](#)
- [GuideStar](#)
- [Issue Lab](#)
- [Philanthropy News Digest](#)

Our products and services

- [Foundation Directory](#)
- [Foundation Maps](#)
- [APIs](#)
- [Candid community](#)
- [Grants to Individuals](#)
- [GuideStar Pro](#)
- [GuideStar Charity Check](#)
- [Nonprofit Compensation Report](#)
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I need information about nonprofits.

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Get funding
I need information on foundations and grants.

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Earn a Seal of transparency
I need more visibility to attract donors.

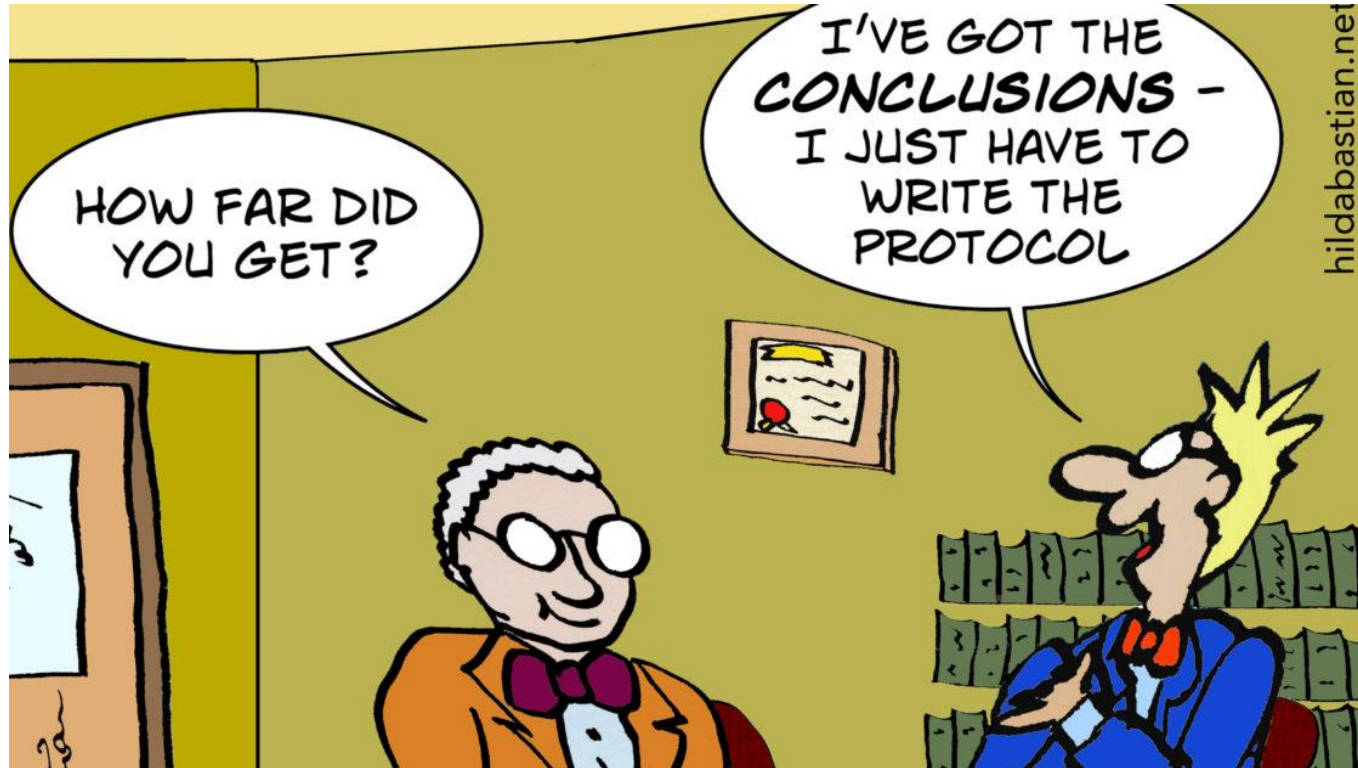
[Get started](#)

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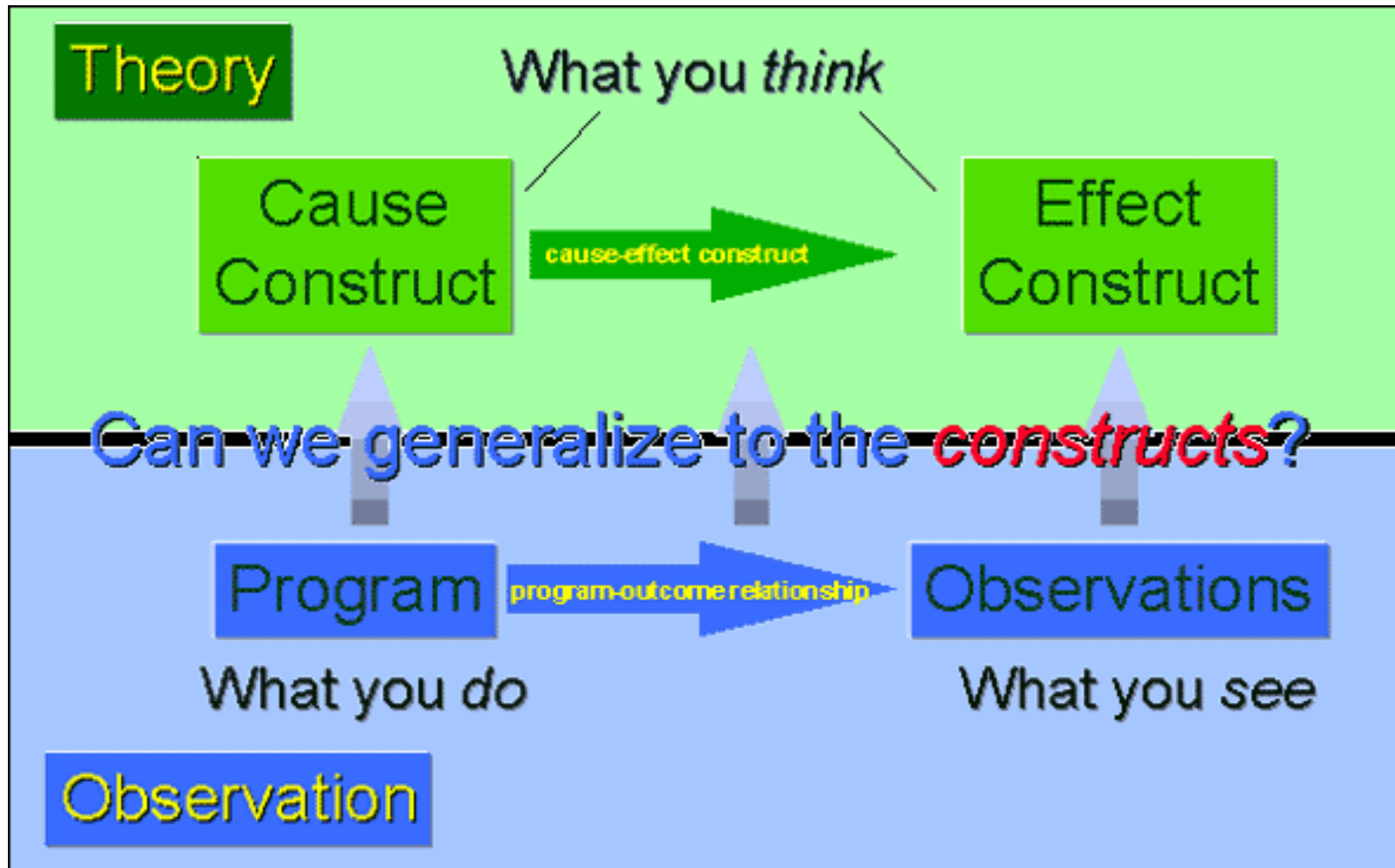
Common Grant Terminology

- Request for Application (RFA) An RFA is a formal statement that solicits grant or cooperative agreement applications in a well-defined scientific area to accomplish specific program objectives. An RFA indicates the estimated amount of funds set aside for the competition, the estimated number of awards to be made, whether cost sharing is required, and the application submission date(s). For cooperative agreements, the RFA will describe the responsibilities and obligations of NIH and awardees as well as joint responsibilities and obligations. Applications submitted in response to an RFA are usually reviewed by a Scientific Review Group (SRG) specially convened by the awarding component that issued the RFA.
- Request for Proposals (RFP) Announces that NIH would like to award a contract to meet a specific need, such as the development of an animal model. RFPs have a single application receipt date and are published in the NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts.
- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) A formal announcement of the availability of Federal funding through a financial assistance program from a Federal awarding agency. The notice of funding opportunity provides information on the award, who is eligible to apply, the evaluation criteria for selection of an awardee, required components of an application, and how to submit the application. The notice of funding opportunity is any paper or electronic issuance that an agency uses to announce a funding opportunity, whether it is called a “funding opportunity announcement (FOA),” “program announcement (PA),” “request for application (RFA),” “parent announcement,” “solicitation,” or some other term.
- Notice of Special Interest (NOSI) Notices posted in the NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts that succinctly highlight a specific topic of interest, for example a specific area of research or program. These notices direct applicants to one or more active funding opportunity announcements (often parent announcements) for submission of applications for the initiative described. Many program announcements will be issued as Notices of Special Interest going forward.

Going from Idea to Operationalization



<https://absolutelymaybe.plos.org/2020/05/30/lets-be-serious-about-bias-in-protocols-of-systematic-reviews>



<https://conjointly.com/kb/construct-validity-idea/>

How to Get There

- Sharp Definitions of ‘Exposure’ and ‘Outcomes’
 - Air pollution example
- How do you get from exposure to outcome?
 - Study design options
- What matters for the development of interventions?
 - Potential mechanisms
 - Modifying variables
- State the hypotheses

Operationalize the Hypotheses into Aims

- What do you need to do to test the hypotheses?
- How to state these in a convincing fashion
- Trick of the trade: once the aims are down, the remainder of the proposal becomes (relatively) easy

The Cornerstone of a Research Proposal

- What are the objectives of the work?
 - Master Plan of your research.
 - Simple and easy to read.
 - Dense, full-of-jargon, poorly-written Specific Aims will not help the review of your proposal, even if the science is sound!
 - Is a useful summary for obtaining early feedback on your proposal

The Science of Specific Aims

- Unmet scientific need
- Includes project goals, hypotheses to be without fine detail
- Original ideas
- Novelty of design
- Fills a gap in the existing scientific story

The Art of Specific Aims

- Be crystal-clear in your writing!
 - State the conceptual framework
 - Limit scientific jargon
 - Non-experts in the field should understand the aims and why they are important

The Marketing of Specific Aims

- Review committee considerations
 - Not all members read every word of the proposal
 - Many read just the specific aims
- Statement of aims preceded by several paragraphs
 - National and big picture science
 - Clinical and translational importance

The Formula for Specific Aims

I. Introductory Paragraph

Opening sentence containing extremely creative thoughts. This will grab the attention of your reader.

State what is *known* about this issue.

State what is *unknown* about this issue.

State why is this lack of knowledge is important.

Formula, cont'd

2. What, Why Whom Paragraph

State the overall, long-term goal of your mission. This represents any future projections or the continuum of your line of research.

State the overall objective of this application. This is a step to achieving your long term goal.

Steps along the continuum for this research that must be achieved, regardless of how hypothesis tests.

Clearly state your central hypothesis. All vague and unfocused fishing expeditions for information will not adequately fulfill your research mission and appears as an invalid study design.

State your rationale for your hypothesis, or how did you come up with the central hypothesis.

Briefly explain why your research design are the best possible solution for the topic at hand.

Examples

- The overarching goal of this proposal is to estimate associations between prenatal exposure to mixtures of correlated endocrine disrupting chemicals (EDCs) and child neurodevelopment.
- The goal of our research is to determine the mechanism of X (or Y, or Z).
- The overall goal of our research group is to define the role of ...

Mounting evidence suggests that prenatal exposure to these EDCs may be associated with adverse child neurodevelopment, yet previous studies are limited by small sample sizes, inconsistencies in developmental measures, and differences in the timing of exposure and outcome assessments^{1,2}. More importantly, previous research has been hindered by a fundamental methodological problem: the challenge of estimating the neurodevelopmental impact of complex mixtures of highly inter-correlated EDC chemicals, with varying concentrations of constituents and potentially different effects across populations. Only recently have investigators begun developing and applying methods to study the effects of complex environmental chemical mixtures, and these methods have yet to be applied to the study of EDC effects on neurodevelopment. This is a critical research gap, as exposures to EDCs are ubiquitous in the US and other developed countries. The validation of methods for evaluating effects of chemical mixtures has been identified as a high priority by NIEHS and the National Academy of Sciences^{3,4}.

Formula, cont'd

3. Specific Aims

Detail your specific aims that will test your central hypothesis, citing primary and secondary endpoints.

Write in the ACTIVE voice.

Use verbs:

to explain

to examine

to investigate

to estimate

to compare

Example

Specifically, we propose to:

Estimate the independent and combined associations between prenatal exposure to mixtures of correlated EDCs metabolite concentrations and age 6-7 year neurodevelopmental endpoints in the SELMA cohort based on the results of a comparative modeling strategy.

Compare the results of four different analytic strategies to model exposure-outcome associations in the SELMA cohort;

Select the strategy(s) that best meets criteria of congruence between discovery and confirmation phases and correct identification of etiologically important components in the simulation phase.

Apply the selected analytic strategy(s) from Aim 1 to a New York City cohort (CCCEH) to ascertain whether these methods are applicable in a heterogeneous population with different EDC exposure concentrations.

Formula, cont'd

4. Payoff paragraph

Briefly explain why this application is innovative

State plainly and simply the general positive impact that your study will have on science.

Why should the reviewers care

Why you should get funded

Why is it important for the general population

Example

Results will inform future researchers and policy makers about possible developmental risks associated with prenatal exposure to EDCs across populations of children.

BUDGETS

Determining your project's general funding needs

Draft your study aims, a general scope of work, and outline your proposed study activities. As you do this, consider the following questions:

Who is needed to accomplish what you've proposed?

- How much of your time (effort) will be required to accomplish what you've proposed?
- Who else will need to be involved? How much of their time (effort) will be required?
- Will you need to partner with another organization/ an individual from another organization? What will this partnership entail? How long will it last?

How long (in years) is needed to accomplish what you've proposed?

What is needed to accomplish what you've proposed?

- What are the major costs associated with the activities you've outlined (Data collection? Travel? Participant incentives? Equipment? Use of facilities, such as laboratories?)

Developing your Personnel Budget

- Determine who you want on your study team each individual's effort
 - Identify specific individuals for each position, rather than using “TBD” placeholders.
 - Confirm that these individuals agree to work on the grant before circulating their names.
- Contact your DA/ grants administrator as soon as possible with this information.
- Your DA/ grants administrator will:
 - Verify salary information from collaborators' departments.
 - Be aware of any agency salary caps (e.g., \$181,500 for NIH and other PHS agencies) and how to deal with these.
 - Calculate personnel costs annually and over the entire budget period.
 - Provide you with personnel cost information.
- The remaining amount is available for either direct costs *or* direct + ICs (depending on your funding opportunity).
- NIAID suggests that salary should make up 60-80% of your budget.
- For most PHS grants, you will need to collect Biographical Sketches for all individuals listed as Key Personnel on your budget.

Determining Non-Personnel Costs

Most PHS agencies separate non-personnel costs into the following categories:

1. Equipment: Property that costs \$5,000+ and has an expected life of over 1 year
 2. Travel: Domestic (U.S., Canada, Mexico & U.S. possessions)/ Foreign
 3. Participant/Trainee Support Costs:
 - NIH: unless otherwise noted, this will be kept blank; tuition remission for graduate students will be included in Other Direct Costs.
 - NSF: used for transportation, per diem, stipends, and other costs for participants/trainees.
 4. Other Direct Costs:
 - Materials and supplies
 - Publication costs (NIH)/ Publication/Documentation/Dissemination (NSF)
 - Consultant services
 - ADP/Computer services (NIH)/ Computer costs (NSF)
 - Subawards/consortium/contractual costs (NIH)/ Subawards (NSF)
 - Equipment or facility rental/user fees (NIH)
 - Alterations and renovations (NIH)
 - “Other”
- Discuss your proposed non-personnel costs with your DA/ grants administrator to determine if:
 - Proposed costs are *allowable* by your funding agency.
 - Proposed costs should be considered *ICs* (not included as a direct cost budget

Travel

- Domestic and International travel are generally allowable costs.
- If you cannot find explicit guidance about whether they are allowable under your funding mechanism, ask your DA/grants administrator. They may contact the funding agency.
- Budget for:
 - Travel required to complete the proposed project activities (e.g., to data collection sites)
 - Travel to scientific meetings to disseminate results in later year(s) of project period.
- Determining travel costs:
 - Your DA/grants administrator may have a standard dollar amount used for domestic and/or international trips.
 - If you are responsible for calculating travel costs:
 - Check professional association websites for information on where conferences will be held in future years.
 - Estimate travel and accommodation costs using a website like Expedia.com.
 - Don't forget to budget for ground transportation (e.g., to and from airport, to meeting or recruitment site from hotel).

Consultants

- If you have collaborators who: provide advice or services; *do not work at your organization*; and will not be majorly contributing to your project, you will likely budget them as consultants.
- Consultants work for a fee. Usually, consultant fees are paid by the hour. For example, you would calculate costs for consultants as follows: 300 hours at \$50 an hour = \$15,000.
- You must include a signed letter from the consultant stating their willingness to participate, their role, and their level of compensation.

Sub-awards/ Consortium Agreements

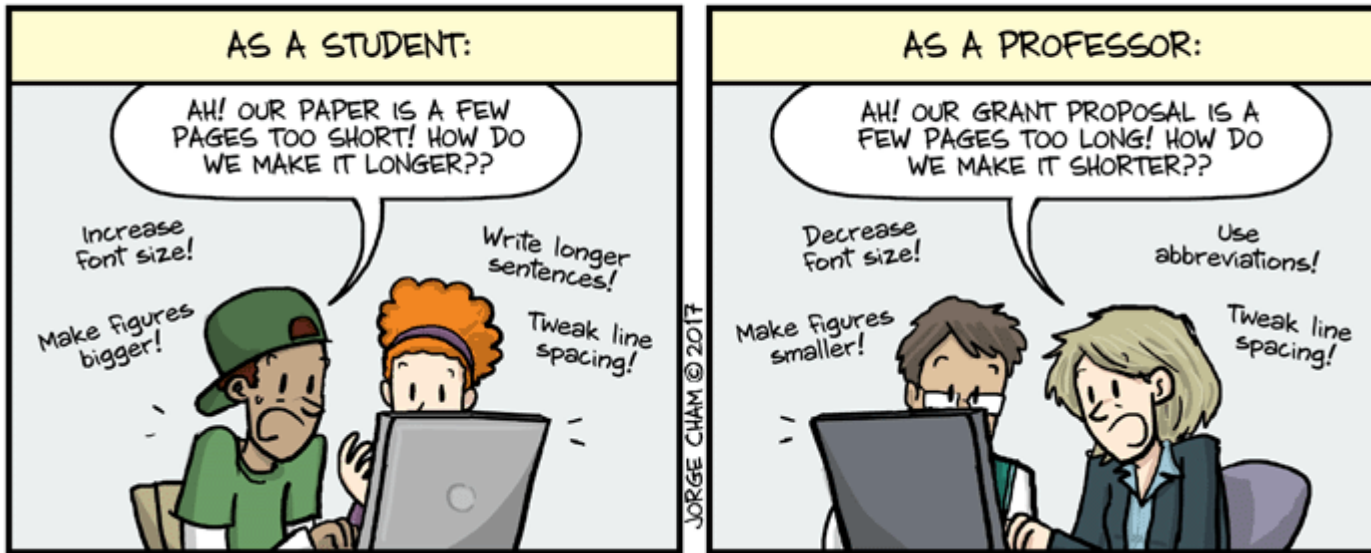
- Discuss with your DA/ grants administrator or program officer to ensure that subawards are allowable costs by your funding agency.
- Use a subaward when your collaborating institution will be making significant contributions to the design, conduct, or outcome of your project.
- If you will include a subaward, you need to prepare the following with your grant application:
 - Formal budget from the subcontract institution
 - Budget justification for subaward
 - Subcontract Proposal Face Page (info about prime and subaward institutions, signed by both the PI of the subaward and authorized official at subaward institution)
 - Scope of Work for subaward institution, ICs should be included in the subaward; up to 8% for foreign institutions and a federally negotiated rate for domestic institutions.
 - Information about compliance with financial conflict of interest policies.
 - Biosketches from key personnel on subcontracts.
- The prime institution will receive ICs for the first \$25,000 of the subaward for government applications.

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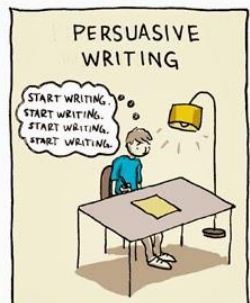
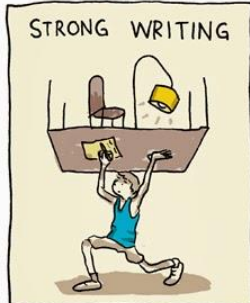
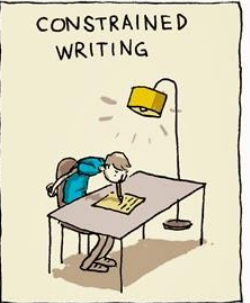
"OUR PROPOSAL DIDN'T GET THE GRANT, BUT THEY WANT US TO TEACH PROPOSAL WRITING."

PAGE LIMITS



WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM

STYLES OF WRITING



Hurricane Sandy Grant

Major climatic events, such as hurricanes, appear to be increasing due to the consequences of global warming. Such events are likely associated with increased psychological stress. On October 29, 2012 Superstorm Sandy, a major hurricane, devastated the mid-Atlantic region of the United States, particularly the New York City/New Jersey area. Along the coastline, houses and businesses were destroyed and residents were evacuated; as of February 2013 some residents were still displaced. In Manhattan, few residents were displaced; those who were quickly returned. However, the storm resulted in serious perturbations to mass transportation, which led to income loss for many. Further, the storm also resulted in long-lasting power outages and shortages of basic supplies such as bread, milk and gasoline.

Pregnant women are considered a vulnerable population. There is increasing evidence that acute psychosocial stressors may be associated with adverse pregnancy outcomes, such as decreases in birth weight and decreases in gestational length. Such outcomes may be the result of acute biological responses to stressors, such as increased production of hormones such as cortisol and increased inflammatory processes. Previous studies in pregnant women following natural disasters find associations with depressive symptoms, anxiety and post-traumatic stress syndrome, and with birth weight, preterm delivery and intrauterine growth restriction; inferences from these are limited, however, because baseline measures of perceived stress were not available and sample sizes were limited.

One recent novel hypothesis relates psychosocial stress and experiences of adverse life events to decreases in leukocyte telomere length (LTL). LTL is associated with chronic diseases, particularly atherosclerotic heart disease, in adulthood and decreased longevity. Little is known regarding the determinants of LTL at birth, which is likely the largest predictor of LTL in adulthood. Given the paucity of literature, it is of interest to determine whether exposure to acute stressors in pregnancy is associated with decrements in LTL at birth.

We were fortunate to be in the process of recruiting 1000 mother-father-newborn trios for a study of prenatal determinants of leukocyte telomere length at birth (R01 HD071180) at the time of Superstorm Sandy. The trios come from prenatal clinics at Columbia University Medical Center in Manhattan and Christiana Health Care Center in Delaware. The protocol for the parent study is remarkable for: comprehensive evaluation of fetal growth by ultrasound from early in pregnancy to parturition; comprehensive measurements of maternal lifestyle, behavior, and health; and the archiving of biological specimens from mothers and newborns. In this R21 application we build upon this study and propose to evaluate the effects of Superstorm Sandy on pregnancy outcomes and LTL in newborns. Because of the timing of recruitment, we are able to evaluate several “exposure windows”, that is no exposure (i.e. birth before the storm), exposure in each trimester and in the three months prior to pregnancy. We also are fortunate to have an unexposed site to serve as a “place” control. For several important reasons, the proposed study improves upon previous work on stress and pregnancy: first, we have both time and place controls and second, we have baseline assessments of stress, social support, anxiety, depression, and resilience. Further, we have sufficient sample size to test our hypotheses. Finally, we are already administering a questionnaire to participants asking about their experiences and stress during the storm.

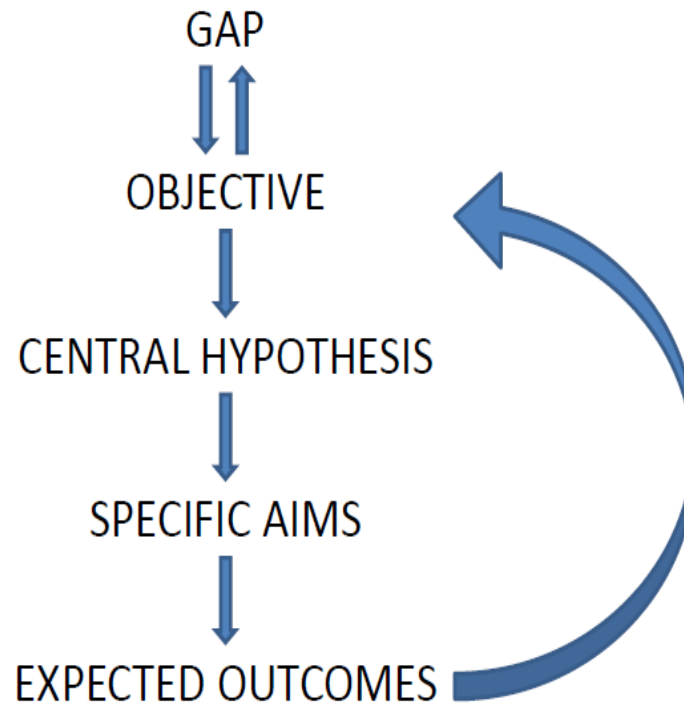
The specific aims are:

1. To examine associations between exposure to Superstorm Sandy and a) decreased length of gestation, b) reduced birth weight, c) reduced birth weight for gestational age, d) decreased head circumference, e) decreased birth length. Secondary aims will examine the associations between exposure in specific trimesters and outcomes and between exposure and dichotomous outcomes such as preterm birth and small for gestational age (SGA).

2. To examine associations between exposure to Superstorm Sandy and LTL in newborns and to examine whether associations, if any, are modified by baseline levels of perceived stress, social support, anxiety, depression and resilience.

Our results have the potential to inform emergency responders and clinicians how best to support and potentially mitigate the effects of psychological stress among pregnant women during and after a major natural disaster. This study will also set the stage for studies to inquire whether exposure to stressful events during the fetal period has long lasting effects on behavior and cognition in children.

Linear Progression of Logic for a Strong Specific Aims Section



www.usuhs.mil/medschool/faculty/ppt/writingspecificaims.pptx

Finally...

- Propose good science
- Write well
- Get feedback

Q & A



Educational Series Returning October 2023!

- **Specific topics and speakers will be selected based on the following NYSPHC Core Competencies:**
 - JEDI
 - Data Based Decision Making
 - Policy Engagement
 - Community Engagement
 - Systems and Strategic Thinking
 - Effective Communication
- **What's New!**
 - Starting this Fall, registration for NYSPHC Educational Series events will be accomplished seamlessly through the NYLearnsPH.com LMS. Stay tuned for more information and next steps!

Evaluation Survey

- Please complete the Evaluation Survey for today's Educational Series.
- You will be directed to the Survey when the meeting concludes.

Save the Date! NYSPHC Summit 2023



Tuesday, December 12th & Wednesday, December 13th



Albany Capital Center



"Building Partnerships that Strengthen Public Health: Systems, Infrastructure, Capacity, and Equity"

Thank you!

