

GRANT WRITING

The first step to obtaining research grants is to submit a proposal to an interested funding source. Most people begin by thinking of an area of research in which interest has been expressed. They then take these ideas and perform an inquiry into the history of research in this area. With the information that they collect they can then develop the question or hypothesis that they wish to answer through their research. After more thought and planning, the grant proposal can be developed. The following outlines what should be included in the proposal (adopted from the CSUSB research website at <http://research.csusb.edu>):

- Cover Letter
- Summary
- Problem Statement (what is the problem you intend to address with funding)
- Objectives (what so you plan to achieve)
- Approach (how you plan to achieve it)
- Evaluation (how will you know that you have achieved your objectives)
- Future Funding (how will you sustain your efforts once the funds are exhausted)
- Budget (how much and why)

Grant proposals can seem overwhelming at first which is why the Center for Criminal Justice Research encourages student research assistance to become involved with the process as part of their learning experience.

Examples of grant proposals are kept in the reference section of the Center library. There are examples of various types of grants and contracts including: mini-grants, National Science Foundation grant proposals, and contracts.