# TECHNICAL PROPOSAL WRITING

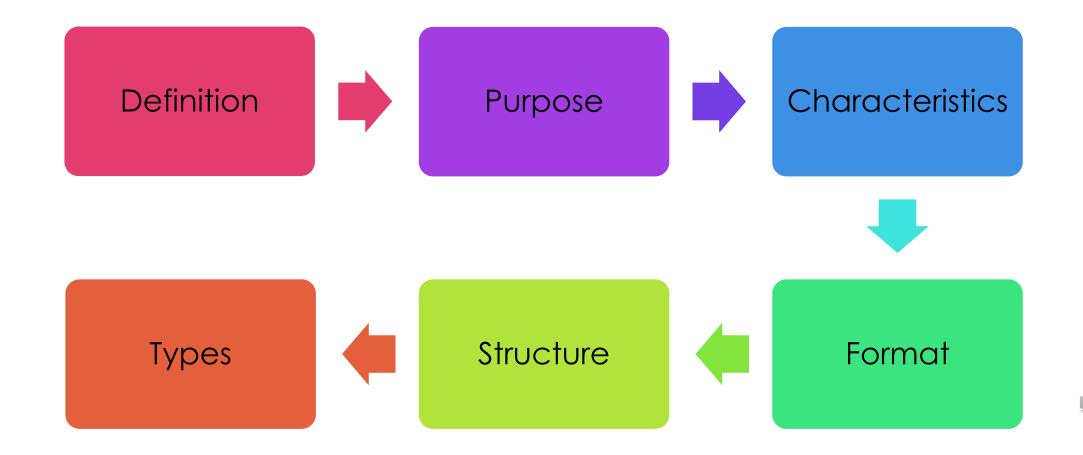




YOU'LL MAKE US TO THINK LOSE THE BID. WINNING LESS WORK.



## Topics to be Discussed



## Definition

Written offer to solve a technical problem Written offer to undertake a project of practical or theoretical nature

Written
document to
persuade the
reader for a
suggested
plan of action

It is an offer by one party to provide a product or service to another party





## Purpose of Technical Proposal







## Characteristics of a Proposal

Compelling content

Flawless language

Clientfocused

Pricing

Brief and to-the-point





## Format of a Proposal

#### **DEFINE THE ISSUE**

- SUBJECT
- PURPOSE
- MAIN ARGUEMENT
- BACKGROUND INFORMATION
- IMPORTANCE

#### **DEFINE THE SOLUTION**

- STEP-BY-STEP PLAN
- BENEFITS
- POTENTIAL OBSTACLES

#### **CONCLUSION-COST AND BENEFITS**

- REITERATE THE MAIN POINT AND PURPOSE
- COSTS
- BENEFITS
- THANKS
- CONTACT INFORMATION





## Structure of a Proposal

I. Prefatory Parts

- Title page
- Letter of Transmittal
- Draft Contract
- Table of Contents
- List of Tables/Figures
- Executive Summary

II. Body of Proposal

- Introduction
- Problem
- Need
- Background
- Objectives or Purpose
- Scope and Limitation Technical Procedures

II. Body of Proposal

- Methods and sources
- Plan of attack
- Managerial procedures
- Sequence of activities
- Equipment, facilities, products
- Personnel qualifications
- Cost estimate

III.
Conclusion

**Appendices** 

References



## Letter of Transmittal



**COVER LETTER** 



ACCOMPANIES OR BOUND AFTER THE TITLE PAGF



INTRODUCTORY
PARAGRAPH (TOPIC,
PURPOSE, SCOPE)



MIDDLE PARAGRAPH (HIGHLIGHTS)



CONCLUDING PARAGRAPH (INVITING TO RESPOND POSITIVELY)



Draft Contract

Quick summary

- Topic
- Proposer details
- Duration
- Cost

(I year/ subsequent years)



## Executive Summary

Background

Purpose

Scope

Infrastructure facilities

Technical details

Significance

Reemphasis



## Contents

**Draft Contract** 

(i)

#### Executive Summary

(ii)

- Technical Section
  - 1.1 Structure of the manufacturing unit
  - 1.2 Details of machinery
  - 1.3 The process
- Management Section
  - 2.1 Proposer details
  - 2.2 Plan of action
  - 2.3 Schedules
- Cost estimate
  - Appendix
  - References







Problem Statement (clear understanding)



Purpose, Scope



Technical overview



Methodology



Significance



Structure





SYSTEM OVERVIEW (TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION)



ANALYSIS OF EXISTING SITUATION



POSSIBLE DESIGN SOLUTION



PROPOSED SOLUTION



SOURCES OF INFORMATION



METHODOLOGY

## Technical Section



## Management Section



Chains of command (Organizational Charts)



Corporate/employee credentials



Schedules (work, implementation, reporting, maintenance, delivery, completion, payment, forecast)



Milestone chart



Team organization



Company profile



## Cost estimate



**IMPORTANT** 



FUNDING (IF INTERNAL)



BREAK UP (EQUIPMENT DETAILS MAN POWER EXPENSES MISCELLANEOUS/CONSUMAB LES)



MATCH WITH DRAFT CONTRACT



## Conclusion



Reemphasize strengths

Assure the reader

No new ideas

Very brief (one paragraph)



## Appendix



CREDENTIAL DETAILS



SUPPORTING TECHNICAL DOCUMENTS



**ILLUSTRATIONS** 



## Types of Proposals

#### **Types of Proposals**

Internal- Written to someone within your organization

or

External- Written to someone outside your organization

**Solicited**- Intended reader has asked for proposals or ideas

or

**Unsolicited**- Intended reader has not asked for proposals or ideas

Unknown Solution- A problem is identified; research will be conducted to find a solution

or

Known Solution- Writer has an idea to implement; research will be conducted to check feasibility



## Types of Research Proposals





## Failure Factors

Questionable project design (Idea ≠ Grant Purpose) Inadequate explanation of the research (vague objectives)

Lack of experience of the investigator (poor writing)

Ignoring instructions

Last minute writing

Typos

Assuming reviewers are experts in the field (bad audience analysis)

Using buzzwords

Inaccurate costs (Budget ≠ Narrative)



## Success Factors











Give ample, credible evidence for all statements

Do not exaggerate

Provide examples, expert testimony and specific facts and figures to support your statements

Use simple, straightforward and direct language preferring simple sentences and active voice Stress reader benefits: remember that you are asking for something, usually a commitment of money; let the reader know what he or she will get in return

