

# How to maximize your ERC chances

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# My ERC credentials

## Proposals

Two successful and three unsuccessful proposals.

## Evaluations

On ERC Starting Grant panel 2020 and 2022. Expert reviewer for several proposals in other years.

# The process

## B1: five-page summary

- Reviewed by 3-4 generalists.
- Evaluated in panel discussion.
- 25-30% success rate.

## B2: 15-page proposal

- **Only read if B1 has passed.**
- Reviewed by, *in addition*, 3-4 specialists.
- Evaluated in panel discussion after reviews and interview.
- 40-50% success rate.

# What you can do

- 1 Craft an exciting and coherent research plan.
- 2 Make B1 perfect.
- 3 Make the interview perfect.

## Craft an exciting and coherent research plan

Explain *what* you will do and *how*. Useful for you and makes the proposal credible.

Lot of work before funding, but worth it.

Better one big question than several loosely related projects.

In economics, 4-5 studies are promised. Best to have a common theme and an arc.

## Make B1 perfect

Panel members come from different fields. You have to convince them to *want* to read your proposal.

If there is relevant connection in other fields, cite it.

# Make the interview perfect

Any amount of preparation is not too much. Best use of your time.

Here you can explain your proposal and react to questions/comments. (You won't see them in advance.)

## Some don'ts

### Don't hide your related work

Be transparent about your own related work. If you have a paper, cite it.  
Beware: reviewers will see your proposal 5-8 months after submission.

### Don't strategize too much

Don't try to guess what the panel wants. It is a diverse group.  
Don't spend time guessing who will be on the panel. Can even be counterproductive.



Good luck!