

Mini-Grant Assignment

Grant writing has become a valuable commodity not only in psychology, but also in sociology, anthropology, political science, biology, and other fields. Receiving a grant can also set you apart from other candidates in the job market or even in graduate school. Grants can cover you tuition, salary, research supplies, participant incentives, and travel costs to conferences. The type of grant you will be writing for this assignment is a Research Grant. These types of grants are meant to cover all expenses related to carrying out your experience (e.g., heart rate monitors, participant incentives, software, printing, gas to the participants' houses, payment of research assistants, payment of transcribers, etc.). Grants are especially important in child development research because of the need for incentives to carry out longitudinal studies, buy materials suitable for children (e.g., different size heart rate monitors for children vs. adults), and to be able to support massive interventions in the community or schools. The current assignment is referred to as a "mini-grant" because there are limited expenses to carry-out a small scale study.

DUE March 30th

Goals and Objectives

1. You will experience what it is like to write an actual grant at the undergraduate level.
2. You will learn to take past research and use it as a foundation to build an innovative grant-worthy study.
3. You will understand the extent to which funding goes to support a study and the difficulty in making a study work on a tight budget.

Task

Create a mini-grant research proposal which could be submitted to the Psi Chi Undergraduate Research Grant. Include a cover page, abstract, introduction, method section, proposed results, discussion, references, and budget sheet.

This paper will also be created on your level of creativity and innovation. Be cautious about your word choice and grammar as well. This paper must be double-spaced in 12-point Times New Roman with 1-inch margins. Do not exceed more than 12 pages.

Note: This is a developmental research study on childhood in psychology. Research studies on medicine, psychiatry, and adolescence are not acceptable for this assignment.

*Tips for completing this assignment

- National Institutes of Health: Office of Extramural Research
http://grants.nih.gov/grants/grant_tips.htm
- Other
See the example grant that I posted on Blackboard
- Optional
To read about the further steps needed to apply for this grant in the future go to
<http://www.psichi.org/?page=undergradresinfo#.ViapyX6rTIU>.

Assessment

Your assessment will be based on the Undergraduate Research Grant from Psi Chi.

1. **Cover Page** – Your cover page must be in APA formatting (1 page).
2. **Abstract**- Include a 120-word APA-style abstract of the project (1 page).
3. **Introduction**- Include a literature review and indicate the importance of the project to the science of psychology. Be sure to use proper APA style references. (4 pages)
4. **Method**- Provide enough detail for a reviewer to assess the feasibility of the project (1-2 pages)
 - a. **Participants**- Describe the sample and indicate that the treatment of participants will meet the guidelines set forth by APA. Indicate how many people you will need, where you will be recruiting these people from specifically, and how you will ensure children's safety/ comfort.
 - b. **Apparatus**- Describe the materials necessary for the experiment.
 - c. **Procedure**- Write a description of the experiment with a proposed timeline. Be detailed in how the experiment will be conducted. Then describe how long you propose it will take to conduct. Be reasonable for your timeline. Typically you need around 30 participants for every condition. Write how long it will take to completed testing your sample (e.g., if you need 64 participants and you run 2 participants per week it will take 8 months to complete your study).
5. **Results**- Provide a brief description of how data will be analyzed and anticipated results In the original Psi Chi Undergraduate Research Grant you would be asked to propose how the data would be analyzed. AND write your anticipated results. For this exercise you will ONLY be asked to report your *anticipated results*. (1 page)
6. **Discussion** - Provide a summary of the implications of *your anticipated results* to science or humanity and *limitations* of the proposed study. (1 page)
7. **References** - You must have a total of 6 references. *One reference must be a 2015 empirical study, one reference must be a Current Directions in Psychological Science paper, and the other 4 references may be your choice.* Be sure that you are using original articles and not citing articles from someone's literature review. Your references must be in proper APA formatting. (1 page)
8. **Budget** - The total for each grant cannot exceed \$1,500. Direct expenses incurred in the conduct of the research are allowed, including equipment, books, supplies, travel to conduct research, and payment of participants. The grant funds cannot be used to pay for travel to present the research or for student assistants to run/conduct the research. You must provide three sources to cite where you got your prices from and include the tax. You may not exceed \$1,500 under any circumstances. (1 page)

Budget Sheet for Your Use

EXAMPLE Proposed Budget					
Requested Item	Justification for Cost and Quantity Needed	Source 1	Source 2	Source 3	Expected Cost
FT80 Polar Heart Rate Monitor	In order to portably measure children's heart rate with a device that is non-invasive, less threatening, and familiar to children. We need two heart rate monitors so that multiple studies can be conducted at the same time.	Amazon \$299.99 each	Target \$347.50 each	Walmart \$250.00 each	2 x \$250.00 = 500.00
Coloring Book	64 coloring books are being requested as incentives for children's participant.	Toys-R-US \$3.99 each	Disney Store \$9.99 each	Dollar General \$1.00	64 x \$1.00 = \$64.00
Total					\$564.00
Tax				9.61%	\$ 54.20
Total with Tax					\$618.20

Proposed Budget					
Requested Item	Justification for Cost and Quantity Needed	Source 1	Source 2	Source 3	Expected Cost
Total					
Tax					
Total with Tax					

PSY 3210

Summers

Name_____

Mini-Grant: Rubric (100 points)

Proper APA Style Cover Page _____/5 points

Introduction _____/20 points

Method

Participants

Sample Description _____/5 points

Children's Safety/ Comfort _____/5 points

Apparatus _____/5 points

Procedure

How the study will be conducted _____/5 points

Timeline to finish study _____/5 points

Anticipated Results _____/10points

Discussion

Implications _____/5 points

Limitations _____/5 points

Proper APA Style References _____/5 points

Budget Sheet _____/10 points

Additional Criteria

Proper Article Selection _____/5 points

Creativity/Innovation _____/5 points

Applied New Knowledge from the Writing Workshop _____/5 points

Comments: