

Effective Project Proposals

- Discuss program, research, and faculty
 - Explain why you chose the program you did. What is it about their research and faculty that you find appealing and useful?
- Detail your research/teaching/project qualifications
 - Quantify wherever possible to provide a very direct, clear image of your efforts. Don't view this as bragging; it's more like proving to the agency that you are worthy of the award/grant.
- Connect your experiences to proposed study or research
 - What events in your academic and even personal life allow you to connect with and even use your research in the real world? Think deeply about this one.
- Show pertinence to current academic debates
 - Read up on the current news in your field. What other contributions are happening, and how does your work fit with trends and ongoing inquiries in your field?
- Demonstrate how work is new, unique and will contribute to the field
 - Don't be afraid to think about the flaws of your project. Be prepared for rebuttals; how might others criticize your work? You should be able to defend your project and emphasize its benefits to modern society.

TIPS:

- ALWAYS read the prompt carefully! What are they asking for, specifically? Note that the advice given above is in general; if the prompt says to not mention or to emphasize specific topics, please do so!