

Osteology Grants – Tips and Tricks to Develop an Application

The information provided in this document contains merely general descriptions of how to prepare an abstract application for one of the Osteology Grants programs:

- Osteology Advanced Researcher Grants
- Osteology Young Researchers Grants

The information summarized in this draft application is based on the “Tools & Tips and How-To Series” by Science Careers online magazine:

- <http://sciencecareers.sciencemag.org/>

How to Get Funding:

- http://sciencecareers.sciencemag.org/tools_tips/how_to_series/how_to_get_funding#hottogetfunding

When starting grant writing be aware of most common fixable problems:

- Poor writing (spelling, grammar and style)
- Insufficient information, experimental details, or preliminary data
- Significance of the proposal not convincingly stated

An important citation in the “How to Get Funding” series is:

"Make your application a joy to read," advises John Schwab, program director NiH. The grants process has "become so competitive that if you fail to win the reviewers' enthusiasm, you hurt your chances considerably," he discloses. Improve your writing skills by simply reading beyond the scientific literature.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

To discriminate between Osteology Research Grants or Osteology Young Researchers Grants we kindly ask applicants to put **YRG-** in front of the title in the abstract application from when applying for an Osteology Young Researchers Grant.

Project No: 99-999
Applicant: Solo, Han

Abstract Application Form

General Information

Nature of study	<input type="checkbox"/> in-vitro	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> preclinical	<input type="checkbox"/> clinical
Title of study	Draft Application - Tips how to write an Osteology Abstract Application		
Study Focus	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hard Tissue	<input type="checkbox"/> Soft Tissue	<input type="checkbox"/> Tissue Engineering
	<input type="checkbox"/> Growth Factor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Implants	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biomaterials
Intended Start	17-04-01		
Duration	24 months		
Funding	100 CHF		

How did you get the information about the Osteology Foundation Grant?

- Poster 'Call for Grants' Online Advertisement
- E-mail Advertisement Advertisement in a dental Journal
- Word-of-Mouth, Colleagues, Friends

Applicant Information

Lead applicant

Last name + First name Solo Han
Academic title Dr.
Position / qualification Phd or Dr. or Senior Lecturer/Researcher or etc.
Address Please fill in your correct office address as this is needed for the administrative office.
Office phone 0031 45 123456789
E-Mail Make sure to fill in your correct e-mail address as this is used by the Osteology as primary contact

Co-applicant 1

Last name + First name: Skywalker Luke
Academic degree DMD, PhD
Position / qualification Assistant Professor

Co-applicant 2

Last name + First name:
Academic degree
Position / qualification

Study Background/Introduction

Describe the significance of your proposal:

- What has been done so far in this field?
- Does this proposal address an important problem?
- What do you intend to do?
- If the aims of the application are achieved, how will scientific knowledge be advanced?
- What will be the effect of these studies on the concepts or methods that drive this field?
- Why is the work important? Explain why this study has to be done!

Hypothesis

Present here your hypothesis and aims.

Be sure you understand the differences between aims and hypotheses.

A hypothesis is not an aim:

- E.g. an aim is - to determine if protein X interacts with protein Y.
Your aims are your intentions, the "directing of effort toward a goal."
- E.g. an hypothesis is - Protein X binds to protein Y, increasing the concentration of Z which affects enzyme activity.
Hypotheses are assumptions made in order to test specific ideas - which may or not be true.

Don't biting off more than you can chew:

- Keep the number of aims to a minimum: two to four aims. Do not be over ambitious.
- Ideally each aim should consist of only one sentence.
- The specific aims must be logical and "stand alone."
- Keep aims related but independent of the successful outcomes of the previous aim.

Emphasise the innovation potential in your proposal:

- Does the project employ novel concepts, approaches or methods?
- Are the aims original and innovative?
- Does the project challenge existing paradigms or develop new methodologies or technologies?

Clinical Relevance

Briefly describe the practical and clinical importance of your proposal.

Show whether the outcome of your study has a real genuine, concrete effect on future research in the field of oral tissue regeneration, e.g.:

- Be focused, but put your proposal into the context of the "big picture."
- Show you are capable of adapting future experiments depending upon the results generated.

Material & Method

Discuss of the study design, including the underlying logic, of the proposed experiments.

Make the reviewers understand the rationale behind your proposed studies.

Tips to Make Your Research Plan a Winner:

Address questions readers may have about your material & methods part.

Discuss how you will interpret your data.

Identify potential weaknesses in your protocols and research design.

If necessary, offer alternative approaches, in case your primary method fails.

Describe if you have developed preliminary data that support your hypothesis and aims.

Realize your audience is diverse. Reviewers may be experts in your field but not in your topic. Include basic, obvious information throughout. Keep it concise and avoid convoluted arguments. Guide your reader through every sentence and idea throughout the material and methods part.

Facilities & Expertise

Describe your scientific environment:

- Show here how your scientific environment in which the work will be done contributes to the probability of success.
- Describe if your proposal takes advantage of unique features of the scientific environment or employ useful collaborative arrangements.
- Show that you have evidence of institutional support.
- Show if you or your scientific environment have/has published in the field related to your proposal