



Sigma Nursing Research Grant Opportunities - Body of Proposal Guidelines

The Project Text MUST be **16 pages or less** and uploaded as a  PDF document (*.pdf),

Project text should adhere to the following styling:

- Arial, Calibri or Times New Roman
- 12 point font size
- Single line spaced

In addition, the use of **image(s), chart(s), and/or figure(s) in the Proposal Text section are NOT allowed**. Any significant image(s), chart(s), and/or figure(s) that will help to illustrate and explain your proposal, should be uploaded in the Appendix step and referenced in the proposal text.

Additional details on the body of the Proposal Text:

Body of Proposal:

1. **Purpose of the Study:**

State clearly the purpose of the study, including how the project makes an original contribution to nursing/health care.

2. **Significance:**

Provide the background of your proposal. Critically evaluate existing knowledge. Specify the gaps that the project is intended to fill. State concisely the importance of the research in terms of the contribution to nursing and potential for leading to further research methodology or theory development.

3. **Specific Aims/Hypothesis:**

State concisely what the research described is intended to accomplish and/or what hypothesis (es) is (are) to be tested.

4. **Theoretical/Conceptual Framework or Rationale:**

Summarize the theoretical framework or rationale as appropriate, addressing the relationship among the specific aims, the literature, key concepts, variables, and instruments.

5. **Literature Review:**

Literature may be reviewed as a separate section or as part of background, significance, and/or conceptual framework. Include current literature that is directly pertinent to the project and that assists in clarification of purpose and procedures.

6. **Method:**

Discuss in detail the methodological approach, the research design, and the procedure to be used to accomplish the specific aims. Describe new methodology. Discuss potential difficulties and limitations of the proposed procedures and alternative approaches to achieve the aims.

a. **Research Design:**

Describe the design of the research.

b. **Subjects and Setting:**

Describe the target population and characteristics of the subjects. Include the number of subjects, the rationale for sample size, the sampling frame, the sampling procedure, and the setting for data collection.

- c. **Apparatus and/or instruments:**
Report the specific characteristics of the instruments, including their reliability, validity, and/or sensitivity. Address how the tool will be used. The instrument(s) (e.g., a questionnaire) should be included in an appendix.
- d. **Procedure:**
Describe the design and the procedure to be used for the proposed data collection. Specify the kinds of data you expect to obtain. Give details of client/subject selection and intervention, if one is involved. If appropriate, discuss potential problems with and/or limitation of the procedures. Discuss in detail any procedure, situation, and/or material in your proposed research that may be hazardous to subjects. Indicate precautions to be exercised. Include an orientation plan for data collectors, if appropriate.
- e. **Plan for Data Management/Analysis:**
Describe the means by which the data will be merged, analyzed, and/or interpreted.
- f. **Limitations:**
Describe the limitations of the study including those related to design and methods
- g. **Human Subjects or Animal Use:**
Provide a statement of the subject's rights and risk. Provide a statement of the procedure used for animals. Include a copy of the Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval and a copy of the human subject consent form. The approval and consent form are not included in the 16 page limit and will be requested in a separate section. If IRB approval is pending at the time of submission, please indicate that in the system when asked for date of approval. If IRB approval is received prior to submission deadline, please add it to your proposal. If it is received after the submission deadline, please send a copy of it to Sigma Headquarters at the following address:

Sigma
Small Grants
550 West North Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202

Please note that proposals without IRB approval will not be funded.

7. Time Frame:

Provide a 12-month schedule that specifies the timing of the main steps of the investigation. Justify that the project can be completed within the time frame.

Support:

1. **Facilities/Resources:**
Describe the facilities and other physical resources available for this study (e.g., laboratories, clinical resources, office space, etc.)
2. **Collaborative Arrangements:**
If the proposed research requires collaboration with other institutions, describe the nature of collaboration and provide evidence to the reviewers that those institutions are willing to cooperate.
3. **Consultative Support:**
Include a description of availability of adequate consultation to assure refinement and completion of the project.

For more information or questions regarding the Sigma Nursing Research Grant Opportunities - Body of Proposal Guidelines, please contact Tonna M. Thomas at 888.634.7575 US/Canada, +1.317.634.8171 International or research@stti.iupui.edu