

P30 NIEHS Center Pilot Proposal Tips

While the application instructions are the most importance guidance – here are some tips and collected wisdom from senior reviewers:

DO's

- **BE SURE TO HAVE CLEAR and SPECIFIC NEXT STEPS –**
 - Specify funding opportunity and anticipated submission date for larger grant
- **INCLUDE A TITLE**
- **SCIENCE MUST BE RELEVANT TO P30 GOALS and EXCITING –**
 - Packaging, branding, storytelling
- **READ THE RFA and FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS**
- **INCLUDE AN ENVIRONMENTAL COMPONENT**
- **PLAN AHEAD**
 - Grants that are rushed at the deadline often review poorly
- **DESCRIBE RESEARCH TEAM –**
 - Although pilots do not include faculty salary, include a Budget Justification describing how all team members contribute
- **DEMONSTRATE THAT YOU HAVE THOUGHT THROUGH-**
 - the format and size of the data (i.e., demonstrate that you have the capacity, support and knowledge to handle the data)

DONT's

- **NO TYPOS**
 - Check formatting, include titles, careful with cutting and pasting
 - Pay attention to details when cutting and pasting from other documents
- **DO NOT OVERPROMISE –**
 - Be realistic about the scope of the pilot project and mindful of budgetary and time constraints
- **DO NOT SUBMIT MULTIPLE APPLICATIONS PER RFA –**
 - If you submit more than one at a time you will compete with yourself, select one and make it your best attempt
- **DO NOT INCLUDE SUBCONTRACTS/SUBAWARDS –**
 - Can be a Fee for Service if technical capability not available in the Center
- **DO NOT DELAY SUBMISSION FOR POWER CALCULATIONS AND SAMPLE SIZE -**
 - Power is not so important in a small pilot study. PI should show that they can do the study and that the results are going in the right direction.
 - Need good analysis plan in the pilot. If you already have enough preliminary data to justify power and sample size, this Pilot is not the right Award to move your project forward.