Academic Research Funding Strategies, LLC

Quote for NSF CAREER Assistance and Editing Services
(for NSF CAREER proposals due July 20 – 22, 2016)

We offer several options for one-on-one assistance with NSF CAREER Proposals, tailored to the needs and experience level of the PI.

Option 1: Up to three iterations of edits of the Project Summary and Project Description

Up to three iterations of reviews and edits of CAREER proposal Project Summary and Project Description drafts. Drafts are reviewed and edited for **organization**, **clarity**, **responsiveness to review criteria**, and **response to previous reviews** (if applicable), as well as for grammar, syntax and punctuation. For example, a PI might send a rough draft for initial review with attention to organization and content, a more polished draft, and then a close-to-final draft. This allows the PI to obtain feedback on how well issues raised in a previous review were addressed.

Timing: We recommend an initial telephone meeting with the PI as soon as possible after our services have been engaged. PIs are also encouraged to e-mail or call us with questions as they work on their drafts. Drafts will be returned with comments and edits (turn-around time for each draft is typically less than 1 week). First drafts are welcome as soon as they are ready. We recommend first drafts be submitted **no later** than **June 6, 2016** in order to allow the PI enough time to respond to comments and generate a new draft for review. However, drafts may be submitted up until **July 5, 2016**, with the understanding that there may not be time for three editing iterations.

Fee: $950 per proposal

Early Bird Discount: $100 off of the above fee for PIs who submit their first draft by <u>May 1, 2016</u>, and second draft by <u>June 15, 2016 </u>; there is no time limit on the final draft.
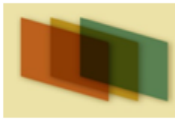
Option 2: Up to three edits of all portions of the NSF CAREER proposal

Work with the PI to address questions and perform multiple edits of drafts of all sections of the CAREER proposal (Project Summary, Project Description, Dept Head letter, Data Management Plan, Postdoc Mentoring Plan if applicable, Budget Justification). Drafts are reviewed and edited for **organization**, **clarity**, and **responsiveness to review criteria** as well as for grammar, syntax and punctuation. This option is most appropriate for PIs who have never submitted to NSF before, or who simply feel they need help with all sections of the proposal.

Timing: We recommend an initial telephone meeting with the PI as soon as possible after our services have been engaged. PIs are also encouraged to e-mail or call us with questions as they work on their drafts. Drafts will be returned with comments and edits (turn-around time for each draft is typically less than 1 week). First drafts are welcome as soon as they are ready. We recommend first drafts be submitted **no later** than **June 6, 2016** in order to allow the PI enough time to respond to comments and generate a new draft for review. However, drafts may be submitted up until **July 5, 2016**, with the understanding that there may not be time for three editing iterations.

Fee: $1,075 per proposal

Early Bird Discount: $100 off of the above fee for PIs who submit their first draft by <u>May 1, 2016</u>, and second draft by <u>June 15, 2016</u>; there is no time limit on the final draft.

Option 3: Intensive CAREER proposal mentoring

Work intensively with the PI on all sections of the proposal (Project Summary, Project Description, Dept Head letter, Letters of Collaboration, Data Management Plan, Postdoc Mentoring Plan if applicable, Budget Justification). There is no limit on the number of editing iterations (within time limitations). This option is most appropriate for PIs who wish to use this experience as a tool to improve their proposal writing skills. Typically, PIs who use this option start on their proposals **at least 3 months before the due date**, and we go through up to 20 iterations as well as discussions on project planning, outlining the proposal, identifying the right NSF core program, etc. Web conferences may also be used to review the draft together and discuss ways to clarify or improve parts of the draft.

Timing: PIs may start on the process as soon as they wish. We recommend an initial telephone meeting with the PI as soon as possible after our services have been engaged. PIs are encouraged to e-mail or call us with questions as they work on their drafts. PIs may submit rough draft of sections of their proposals as they are completed, or they may submit complete drafts, depending on their preference. Drafts or draft sections will be returned with comments and edits (turn-around time for each draft is typically less than 1 week). In this way, strategic and structural issues can be addressed as the proposal evolves.

Fee: $1,500 per proposal

15% discount for 4 or more proposals. Institutions are welcome to select different options for based on each PI's needs.

Note: Preferably, proposal drafts should be provided as MS Word files, and edits will be made using "track changes" and as separate comments. If the PI is using LaTeX, s/he should convert the files to pdf format; edits to the pdf file will be provided.

For all options: Assistance interpreting reviews

Included in the fees specified above, PIs who are not funded are encouraged to contact us to discuss the reviews and possible paths forward based on the feedback given by the reviewers and the Program Director.

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