

Proposed Guidelines for the “Dissertation Proposal” (year 2, April 15 deadline).

The proposal should follow the NIH R01 grant “Research Plan” guidelines. However it should be approached as a “summary” of the proposed work rather than a full-fledged grant application as this proposal is intended to “educate” the committee and obtain input. Note the following specific requirements:

Format:

1. Font: no more than 12 points, Times New Roman is preferred. Single spaced.
2. Margins: 0.5 inch all around.
3. Page limit: 6 to 8 pages.

Overall organization:

1. Abstract and Specific Aims (1 page).
2. Background (3-4 pages). Preliminary data is not required but can be included.
3. Research Design (3-4 pages). For each Aim, describe:
 - a. Rationale and objectives.
 - b. Experimental design (no detailed methods required).
5. References – no limit (not included in the page limit).

Any questions regarding further details on the format should be directed to the thesis committee.