

## **Excerpts from NIH PHS 398 Instructions** (<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html>)

### **(a) Significance**

- Explain the importance of the problem or critical barrier to progress in the field that the proposed project addresses.
- Explain how the proposed project will improve scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice in one or more broad fields.
- Describe how the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventative interventions that drive this field will be changed if the proposed aims are achieved.

### **(b) Innovation**

- Explain how the proposed plan challenges and seeks to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms.
- Describe any novel hypotheses, theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation or intervention(s) to be developed or used, and any advantage over existing methodologies, instrumentation or intervention(s).
- Explain how proposed project addresses a critical barrier to progress in the field

### **(c) Approach**

- Describe the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses to be used to accomplish the specific aims of the project. Present a conceptual framework that is well-integrated, well-reasoned, and appropriate to the aims of the project. Include how the data will be collected, analyzed, and interpreted.
- Discuss potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success anticipated to achieve the aims.
- If the project is in the early stages of development, describe any strategy to establish feasibility, and address the management of any high risk aspects of the proposed work.