

Template for a Specific Aims page

First Paragraph: Preamble / Introduction

What is the Topic? Write a concise, active sentence introducing the topic of the proposal:

What is the Gap? Describe the gap in knowledge or unmet need that the proposal will address:

What is the long-term Goal? Our long-term goal of my research is to . . .

What are the specific Objectives? Describe the objective(s) for THIS proposal:

What is the Hypothesis? Define your hypothesis without reference to experiment.

What is the Evidence for the hypothesis? Describe literature background & preliminary data.

What is the Summary (Rationale / Significance)? Write a sentence summarizing the proposal.

Specific Aims—*for each aim:*

- Write a short descriptive title
- Include brief description of activities to be performed, hypothesis to be tested, &/or outcomes predicted by hypothesis (aims should have clear, measureable outcomes).

Aim 1.

Aim 2.

Aim 3.

Last Paragraph: Concluding Statements

- **What is Innovative?** Describe the novel features of the proposal.
- **What are the (big picture) Outcomes / Impact?** What will you learn? Describe how the research will advance the field, or improve human health.
- **For a Career Development (K) Award: What is the Training Potential?** Describe how the research combined with the training plan will enable you to become a productive independent researcher.