

# Connecting the Dots: Ideas, Plans, & Budgets for Grant Writing



Successful grant writing relies on a clear vision. [This on-demand webinar](#) will help new and experienced grant writers connect the dots between a winning proposal and their program's big picture goals, including how to define a program's mission, develop a budget, and create successful work plans.

## Learning Outcomes

- » Identify strategies to clearly define a program's purpose.
- » Describe the components of a successful grant proposal.
- » Recognize characteristics of a strong budget justification.

## Key Takeaways

- ✓ Before starting a grant proposal, take time to review eligibility, proposal expectations, necessary collaborators, application timeline, and all required components.
- ✓ Common elements of a grant proposal include description of the issue to be addressed, project design and implementation plan, capabilities and competencies of your team, a plan for data collection and evaluation, and a proposed budget.
- ✓ Balance your project proposal between broad aspirational goals and specific realistic objectives.
- ✓ Develop a conceptual or logical model that relates background knowledge and important concepts in a usable cause-and-effect framework to provide guidance and justification for your proposed project.
- ✓ In order to ensure a strong budget justification, all proposed expenses must relate back to program purpose and have a clearly defined role in program implementation. "Ask what you need. Need what you ask."
- ✓ Strong grant proposals must be organized, focused, readable and realistic.

## Additional Resources

[Foundational Elements of School Safety](#) - A place to begin developing a framework for your grant proposal by highlighting common facets of school safety for your consideration.

[SchoolSafety.gov](#) - A starting place for thinking about school safety plans and commonly implemented strategies across the country.

[Grant Terminology](#) - List of commonly used grant terminology and definitions, maintained by the federal government.

[Steps to Developing a Logic Model](#) - This checklist from the CDC outlines the steps for creating a logic model for your project.

## Questions for Discussion

- » What is the issue you are looking to address in your proposal? Why is it important? How are you planning to address it?
- » Which partners and constituents will be a part of the grant-writing process? Is their role clearly defined?
- » What will this grant be for? Is there a clear justification for each expense you are planning to propose?
- » Is your proposal organized, focused, readable, and realistic?

**NC2S.org | [schoolsafety@umich.edu](mailto:schoolsafety@umich.edu) | 734-647-8295**  
**[Twitter.com/NC2S\\_Tweets](https://twitter.com/NC2S_Tweets) | [Facebook.com/SafeSchoolsUS](https://Facebook.com/SafeSchoolsUS)**

Copyright © 2021 Regents of the University of Michigan

This project was supported by Cooperative Agreement No 2019 YS BX K 001 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the U S Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Office for Victims of Crime, and the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U S Department of Justice.