

Tips for preparing LAUC research grant proposals

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LAUC-B Research Informational Brown-Bag

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1. **Be motivated** to conduct research. Focus on how it will be fun and fulfilling and how it will develop your career.

2. Ask a focused question so the research is doable. **Set limits.**

To ask the hard question is simple.

– W. H. Auden

3. Conduct a literature review to **maximize the relevance of your research.** Identify what is already known about a topic, the gaps in its knowledge, and the importance of its exploration. Let this refine your research.



4. Find research **support and collaborators** to reduce the workload.

5. Use a **template** to design your research methodology and to write your proposal.

Here are helpful sources:

- Studies identified in your literature review
- Past LAUC-funded research proposals
- Theses and dissertations → search the ProQuest Dissertation & Theses database
- Research methodology books by John W. Creswell – particularly the fill-in-the-blank templates in *Research design: qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches*

Any customer can have a car painted any color that he wants so long as it is black.

– Henry Ford on the Model T Ford , 1909

6. Submit your proposal and **follow the helpful guidance** from reviewers.

7. Recognize **there is some flexibility** in how you spend your grant, so consider modifying your research as you go along.

*Never underestimate your power to change yourself;
never overestimate your power to change others.*

– H. Jackson Brown, Jr.



8. Go **BIG**. It may require a lot of effort to prepare a grant proposal, so ask for as much money as you need.

The ripest peach is highest on the tree.

– James Whitcomb Riley