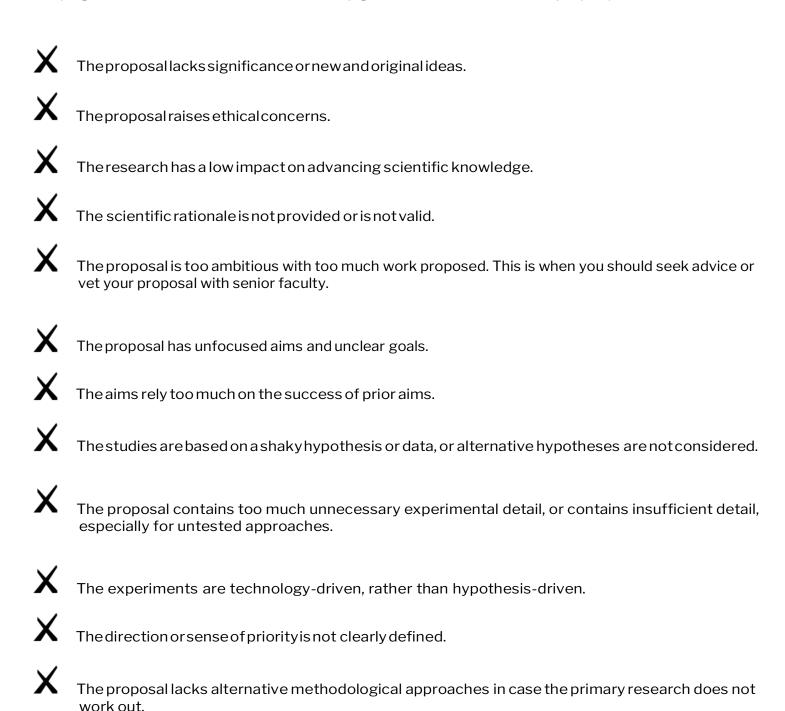




Common Grant Writing Mistakes

This page lists common mistakes cited by grant reviewers as to why a proposal was not funded.



The proposed model system is not appropriate to address the proposed questions.

The proposal is innovative but lacks enough preliminary data.

X	The preliminary data do not support the feasibility of the project or hypothesis.
X	The proposal lacks appropriate controls.
X	The proposal does not include discussion of potential pitfalls.
X	The proposal does not include discussion of interpretation of data and alternative explanations.
X	The investigator does not have enough experience with the proposed techniques or has not recruited a collaborator who does.
X	The proposal does not clearly show which preliminary data were obtained by the investigator.
X	The investigator has few recent papers.
X	The investigator failed to recruit collaborators or did not include letters of support from collaborators.
X	The proposal shows little institutional commitment.