

Grant Writing Confidence Self-Assessment Inventory

Overview:

The Grantsmanship Confidence Self-Assessment Inventory is a validated tool to enhance the grant writing skill development of early stage investigators and postdoctoral fellows. Items are categorized in three domains: skills in conceptualizing a research study, skills in designing a research study, skills in funding a research study. The items on this tool were identified by the National Research Mentoring Network as the critical skills that grant-seeking researchers need in their journey to becoming an independent research investigator.

This tool can be used for professional development of postdoctoral fellows and faculty developing new grants. It could also be used for faculty recruitment and retention as it demonstrates a department's commitment to supporting faculty in developing their research skills and advancement to promotion and tenure. It is meant to be a working tool rather than a measurement of performance. To that end, the tool should not be used in performance reviews.

Suggested Uses in a Mentoring Relationship:

1. Mentees should revisit this tool annually with a research mentor or mentoring team
2. Mentors should suggest targeted assignments related to the three grant writing domains
3. Mentees can seek out future training and coaching opportunities on items to improve confidence

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Assessment Date:	Name:
Rate your confidence <u>today</u> in applying skills in grantsmanship. Assess your progress at least annually. <i>The 0-to-10 scale is equivalent to 0% to 100% confidence in your ability to successfully perform skills today.</i>	
Skills in conceptualizing a research study	
Articulate a clear research purpose	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Select a suitable research topic	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Refine a problem to investigate	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Organize your research ideas in writing	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Justify the importance of your research	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Convince reviewers that your research is worth funding	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Describe the logical rationale for your research project	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Relate your research question(s) to an underlying theory.	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Total CONCEPT Score / 8 items = Average	
Skills in designing a research study	
Choose an appropriate research design	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
State the purpose, strengths, and limits of your study design	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Determine the population and an eligible sample for your study	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Determine an adequate number of subjects for your study	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Determine how each variable will be measured	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Select feasible methods for collecting your research data	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Design a data analysis strategy	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Total DESIGN Score / 7 items = Average	
Skills in funding a research study	
Write a competitive grant	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Identify an appropriate funding source	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Converse with funders about your project	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Describe the funding process	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Total FUND Score / 4 items = Average	
Notes:	