

## Research Lighthouse workshop:

### Grant proposal tips & tricks for early-career scientists

*This workshop is intended to participants practical techniques and insight to begin writing their own competitive research grant proposals.*

#### Target group

The workshop is aimed for **early-career researchers** with limited or no experience of submitting research grant proposals, e. g. PhD students, postdoctoral fellows, assistant professors, and similar positions.

#### Overview

The fate of any grant proposal is determined by the funder's procedures and evaluation, so by understanding how a winning proposal is selected, applicants can improve their chances of getting funded. This workshop connects the funders' processes with the structure of the proposal, providing practical tips and insights to help participants write better proposals.

The workshop consists of short presentations and micro-exercises. The main sections are:

- Quick overview over research funding; how does it work?
- How do funders process grant proposals? Administrative processing and peer review, and what it means for the applicant. What is "the best research"?
- How does the funder's process translate into a research proposal? The anatomy of a research grant proposal:
  - Title and introduction – the pitch.
  - Background – setting the scene, defining goals. What is "impact"?
  - Materials and methods – your project's "manual".
  - Budget – making sure that the project can be done.
  - CV and publications – marketing yourself.
- These headings may be adapted to fit any specific funder, or type of funder.
- A tool for planning your project and ensure smooth project management.
- Discussion with Q&A

#### Learning points – what you get

After the training course, participants will:

- understand the wider framework of external research funding.
- have insight into the factors and processes used by funders to select winning proposals, including an overview of the proposal review processes and how funders make decisions.
- have acquired a "toolbox" for designing successful research projects and grant proposals.
- be able to begin planning and writing their own project funding proposals.

For more information, please contact [Olaf Svenningsen](mailto:olaf.svenningsen@research-lighthouse.com).

