



# BPC-Centric Proposal Writing

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# The Review Process for BPC

NSF Programs are very competitive.

Having a great idea is not good enough: You have to sell the idea, and your ability to pull it off.

You have to sell the idea to a panel.

First your proposal has to get to the panel ...

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# BPC Panels

- › BPC panels have 25-30 proposals & 8 -15 people.
- › BPC panels include members of all targeted groups, CISE researchers, experts on K-12, experts on CCs, and evaluators.
- › The panel is charged with assessing the proposals according to the solicitation.
- › The panel's recommendations are advisory.

# Implications of Panel Review

- › Organize your proposal well; make it easy to find key sections.
- › Make your case to the expert and nonexpert alike.
- › Make sure that your proposal is responsive to the solicitation.
  - œ Read the entire solicitation carefully, checking for additional criteria (BPC has some).
  - œ Address each area in the solicitation.
  - œ







If you have never been on a panel, get on one.

# Learn more about the goals of BPC

**BPC Solicitation:** It will be new, check in late Jan

**See funded proposals** (NSF pages, “Awards,” choose “Cuny” for PO or better, “7482” for program element code)

**Also read (Hopefully on new website by then)**

- œ Report from Fall '04 BP Meeting
- œ Freeman & Cuny CRA's CRN article
- œ Dave Patterson's ACM article
- œ BPC FAQs

# A Proposal Contains

# BPC Panels wanted to see ...

- › Novel (well, memorable)
- › Pathway from K-12 activities to college enrollment
- › Longer term engagement
- › Effect beyond improvements in local environment
- › Great literature review
- › Details on the evaluation plan, Independent evaluator or social scientist
- › Activities / Approach specific to targeted groups
- › Added value
- › Things not covered in other NSF programs

# General Tips

- › Talk to your program officers.
- › Participate on a panel.
- › Get copies of previous proposals from your colleagues.
- › Do your own peer review.
- › *EVERYBODY* has NSF declines: Be persistent.

