Cognitive Neuroscience of Development and Aging (CoNDA) Center
Mock Study Section

Expectations of Applicants

- As soon as possible, notify Mock Study Section of intent to participate in response to initial call for applications. Only NIH R, K, and F awards will be considered for Mock Study Section Review.
- Applicants can be assured that confidentiality will be protected at all times by reviewers and observers of Mock Study Section.
- Submit required documents by stated deadline.
  1. Complete Draft Proposal (Specific Aims & Research Strategy). Drafts must be complete in that they are fully written documents so that reviewers have all information needed to score the draft. It is fine if there are places where you are still going to add details such as additional citations, but drafts should not include outlines or missing sections.
  2. Complete NIH Biosketch of the applicant and, if possible, all Key Personnel listed on the grant.
- Provide two to three suggested reviewers who are members of the faculty at UNMC, UNO, Boys Town, or Creighton.
- Attend the Mock Study Section. You are welcome to invite members of your lab or team to observe the Mock Study Section. You will not be allowed to comment during the review of your grant, but there will be a debriefing session afterwards where questions and comments can be addressed.
- Expect to receive Scored Review Criteria from each reviewer after the Mock Study Session meets.

Expectations of Reviewers

- Reviewers can be either Faculty or Postdoctoral Fellows.
- Reviewers will have at least a two-week period to review all grant documents.
- Reviewers will be assigned as either a Primary, Secondary, or Tertiary Reviewer. The grant will be either an NIH R, K, or F award.
- The reviewers will be asked to complete an NIH written scoring critique.
- The reviewer will be required to attend the scheduled Mock Study Section. Expect the Mock Study Section to run in a similar manner to an NIH Study Section. The chair will begin the meeting. Initial scores will be provided by the Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary Reviewer. The Primary reviewer will begin with their summary of the grant and their justification for their score. The Secondary and Tertiary reviewer will then be asked for any additional input. The reviewers will be asked for final scores. The entire study section will then be asked to vote. Any member with a score outside the range will be asked to explain their reasoning. The session will end with a debriefing where the panel can interact with the PI and observers.
- The reviewer will be required to provide the PI with a completed NIH written scoring critique.
- Scoring templates and grant reviewing resources will be available in a shared drive to assist reviewers.