The Grant Application Writer’s Workbook
Workbook Descriptions

National Institutes of Health Version
The May 2020 edition has been updated to comply with the instructions and review criteria language for NIH grant applications due after May 25, 2020. This includes updated FORMS-F general and program-specific instructions. In this Workbook edition we refer to the research-specific set of instructions. Additional updates and information include a streamlined approach to finding an appropriate Program Officer and Study Section; changes to the organization of the PHS Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information form; new guidance on preparing the PHS Assignment Request Form; clarification on appropriate use of letters of support; and more. All URLs and screenshots have also been updated.

National Science Foundation Version
The June 2020 edition has been updated to comply with the revised version of the Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide (PAPPG) (NSF 20-1) - effective for all proposals due on or after June 1, 2020. NSF no longer publishes the Grant Proposal Guide (GPG) and the Award and Administration Guide (AAG) as separate documents. Some changes for 2020 include updates to the EAGER and RAPID language; reviewers not to include language; Project Description sections; Broader Impacts examples; biosketch requirements; appointments language; synergistic activities language clarification, and the Collaborators and Other Affiliations template. All URLs and screenshots have also been updated.

Successful Proposals to Any Agency (For proposals other than NIH, NSF, or USDA)
The grant applications of most agencies contain basically the same sections – only the specific names for the sections and the order in which they appear in the application are different. In addition, the principles and fundamentals of good proposal writing are the same for all agencies. Given these two facts, we have written a “generic” workbook that can be used to write a proposal to any granting agency. It walks the applicant through the preparation of each section and is meant to be complemented by the specific instructions of the agency that is being targeted. September 2016 edition.

USDA/NIFA Version
Principles and fundamentals of good proposal writing are emphasized, together with specific tips on Integrated Projects, use of the SF424 application format, and electronic submission through Grants.gov. The Workbook provides a clear, useful outline for creating the first draft of the proposal. April 2015 edition.