

PRBB Intervals Course Proposal

Course Title How to write a grant proposal for Horizon Europe

Proposed date(s): 25th, 27th November, 16th December 2024 & 6th March 2025

Course Language English

Course Leader(s) and very brief summary of relevant qualifications and experience (no more than 2 lines for each trainer)

- Gabriele Picarella has a postgraduate degree in project planning and management of development projects. He currently coordinates the Pre-award area within the Strategy and Funding department (SaF) at the CRG. He has developed a broad and extensive practice in research administration and counts on a wide experience in managing successful sponsored projects and supporting competitive funding strategies in different sized research organizations.
- Natalia Dave has a PhD in Biophysics and more than 15 years of research experience and is currently Head of Strategy and Funding department (SaF). Six years ago, decided to change her career path from research to scientific management at the International and Scientific Affairs (ISA) office at the CRG. At ISA, she has gained substantial experience in managing and writing several European H2020 and Horizon Europe research projects. Since 2018, she is expert reviewer of grants for the European Commission.

Rationale for course (why is this course of interest for the PRBB staff?)

Many European grant proposals are written and submitted each year. Few are funded. The course will offer the tools to identify the right funding opportunities, understand the call text and plan and write high-impact research proposals in Horizon Europe that tell a powerful story. The participants will be able to receive a mock evaluation of a short proposal to gather direct feedback on their ongoing or prospective projects.

Course aim - general

The course will offer key tips and strategies to write a successful grant application in Horizon Europe. The learning outcomes may also be useful to write successful proposals for other funding agencies.

Specific learning outcomes (what new skills, knowledge &/or attitudes will participants to take away from the course?)

You will learn:

- Funding opportunities for junior researchers in Horizon Europe, with a focus on the European Research Council and collaborative projects
- The review process of a grant
- Tips and tricks to write the different sections of a grant proposal: abstract, objectives, methodology, research data management plans, etc.
- Science policy aspect mandatory in proposal writing
- Plan and prepare a budget

Course contents (outline of topics to be covered)

The course will cover the following topics:

- What is Horizon Europe? What is there for me as junior researcher (junior PI or postdoc)?
- How are grant proposals reviewed?
- What are the sections in a grant proposal I need to write?
- How can I prepare a credible budget according to the guidelines?

Training methods

The course consists of theoretical and practical lectures from experts in grant applications as well as hands-on exercises and testimonials from previous grant evaluators. The course consists of four half-day sessions. You should be able to attend all of them and write a short proposal that will be the subject of a mock evaluation.

Target group in PRBB (senior scientists, postdocs, predocs, management/admin staff, all residents)

Junior PIs, senior postdocs who want to apply for independent grants, management staff dedicated to support scientists in grant proposal writing.

Number of participants (maximum) 12

Total course hours (Please specify: direct training with instructor present and required self-study)

Note: only the direct training hours will be included in the post-course certificate.

Number of hours of class time: 13,5h

Number of hours of self-study: 2-3h aprox

Total number of course hours: 15-16h

Distribution of course (hours/days)

3 sessions of 3,5 hours and 1 final session of 3 hours

Pre-course preparation and/or between sessions?

Participants have to submit title and abstract of your potential proposal for a grant (max. 250 words) to intervals@prbb.org. Abstracts should be submitted by Monday, 11th November at the latest.

Additionally, we encourage participants not to miss the opportunity to get feedback from experts on preparing their own project! To this aim, a specific template will be provided in due time to prepare a short proposal. Participants submitting their proposals by the 6th February 2025 will have the chance to take part in the last session of the course (March-6) and get feedback directly from the evaluators as well as receive written comments.

Material participants need to bring (laptops, etc...)

Participants can bring notebooks or laptops if they prefer but it is not required.

Relevant background reading/audiovisual/websites or other materials

You can familiarize with Horizon Europe at the following website: https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe_en