

Open Your Class With This Tomorrow
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National Science Foundation



Directions: You are on the board of directors of the National Science Foundation. The particular board you serve on awards grant money for research studies in the Behavioral Sciences. Unfortunately, there is not enough money to award all applicants the funding they are requesting for their research. Read the following applications and determine how you will delegate the money for the following research studies. Also, include a justification for why you have selected some studies over others. You have \$100,000 to provide funding for these studies. You can provide each proposal either in its entirety or in part (but the line items must be entirely funded or not at all). Be sure to explain why you are funding or not funding a particular study. You will not have enough money to fund all of the research studies in the entirety.

Proposal #1

Criminal psychologists at the John Marshall School of Law are requesting \$55,000 in order to create training programs for police officers in the city of Chicago focused on questioning tactics aimed at reducing the number of false confessions in interrogations. Each training session will be made up of video tapes in which officers unwittingly framed questions in such a way that the accused are under the impression that the officers already have evidence against them. Officers will then be trained to ask non-leading questions. The training programs will also institute new rules that set maximum time limits for interrogation sessions, mandate that all interrogations are videotaped and that all interrogations have multiple officers present as well as a trained criminal psychologist. The goal of this research will be to save people from confessing to crimes that they did not commit and to protect those who are innocent from serving prison time. They estimate that these programs can save between 50-100 people from going to jail for crimes they did not commit in the next two years.

The proposed grant will include the following items:

\$5,000 for the development of the training program

\$10,000 to pay the trainers for the 40 training sessions that will take place at police precincts around the city.

\$15,000 to supplement the inclusion of a criminal psychologist at interrogations

\$15,000 to supplement the inclusion of an additional police officer at each interrogation session.

\$10,000 to support the ongoing training and support after the initial training

Total request \$55,000

Explanation for funding or not funding the proposal _____

Proposal #2

Researchers believe that a placebo may be effective in helping ease emotional as well as physical pain. In order to determine whether a placebo can be effective at emotional relief, they are asking for funding to determine if those who have just broken up with a significant other can benefit from a placebo and shorten their length of suffering after the breakup. The study will recruit 80 participants who have just broken up with romantic partners and provide them with a placebo for a 4-month period. The study will include bi-weekly check-ins in addition to a pre and post-study of the participant's emotional well-being. The study will also include a comparison to studies regarding the effectiveness of physical relief using placebos to determine if the relief from emotional suffering is stronger or weaker than that of physical symptoms. The goal of this study is to provide support for those suffering from emotional distress, which may increase the chances of self-harm.

The proposed grant will include the following items:

\$8,000 to develop the assessments

\$30,000 to pay four psychologists \$2,500 per month in order to code and analyze the data from the results

\$6,000 for a comparison study of the physical effects of placebos

\$4,000 for the work of researchers to follow-up and publish the findings

Total request \$46,000

Explanation for funding or not funding the proposal _____

Proposal #3

Researchers are requesting funding in an effort to reduce the number of traffic deaths among young people. 100 children ranging from 6 to 14 years old will be recruited as participants in the study. Researchers believe that motor and perceptual abilities are not fully developed until the early teens, which cause the deaths of young people who often cross the street alone on the way to or from school. The study will use a 3D simulator in order to provide a simulation of crossing streets with one and two lanes of traffic at

differing speeds to determine the perceptual abilities of children. The study aims to find methods of reducing traffic deaths in children who cross the street alone.

The proposed grant will include the following items:

\$22,300 to rent the virtual reality machine for the 6-week study.

\$10,000 to pay \$100 to the parents of each participant for their time in the study.

\$2,000 for the program to run the traffic simulation

\$3,200 to pay for two psychologists to run the 4-week study

\$4,000 for the analysis and write up to publish the findings.

Total request \$41,500

Explanation for funding or not funding the proposal _____

Proposal #4

Much research has been completed regarding the dangers of football potentially causing concussions. Researchers are asking for support to research another contact sport; ice hockey. Researchers will administer cognitive tests and conduct fMRI scans on early career, mid career, and retired ice hockey players. The study aims to determine if ice hockey poses a risk to players and if so, how to reduce that risk. A total of 90 players will be investigated, 30 from each group.

The proposed grant will include the following items:

\$15,000 for access to the fMRI machine

\$5,000 for the creation and administration of cognitive assessments.

\$9,000 to pay participants \$100 per participant for their time in the study

\$6,000 for the analysis and potential publication of the results

\$18,000 to create a program to help reduce the trauma that may occur through the play of ice hockey

Total request \$53,000

Explanation for funding or not funding the proposal _____
