



Tips for Successful Funding Applications

- Read the criteria carefully and then consider how to direct and frame your research topic
- Spend time ruminating about the overall nature of your research and define its objectives and innovative aspects
- Problematize your research more specifically in terms of what you want to achieve, and pay special attention to defining the parameters and purpose
- Locate your research in the existing discourse, clarifying how you will engage and modify its current form
- Identify the most relevant theory, and methodology where appropriate
- Establish the main issues and questions
- Consider the context and attend to comparative factors, including what will be omitted or treated in less detail
- Expand on matters of theory and method so as to construct an effective critical frame for your research project
- Explain your approach to understanding the research problem both analytically and practically
- Clarify your terminology in relation to the theoretical and scholarly literature
- Chart how you will undertake the research, particularly your strategy for study and writing
- Justify your choice of supervisors with respect to your research
- Estimate the contribution your research will make to the field, with respect to material and critical outcomes
- Place the research within your longer term academic goals
- Write for meaning not effect, remembering that complex ideas and information can be articulated as effectively through simpler vocabulary and articulate syntax AND remember that adjudicators value concise grant applications
- Allow plenty of time for preparation and for review!