A how-to presentation with examples

Summer Research Fellowships
Your Idea

- Nothing is more important than your idea
- It is the most important part of your proposal
- You won’t fool the committee by glitz

- Your idea needs to be clear in your mind
- You have to articulate it to educated laymen
- Novel, original, innovative, creative, clever
- Practice expressing your idea – over and over
Two Options:

Six-week

- $2,600 stipend to work on a research project over a six-week period.

Ten-week

- $4,400 stipend to work on a research project over a ten-week period.
To qualify, you must:

- For both options, you must complete the application for a summer research fellowship.
- You must have a faculty mentor who is willing to work with you throughout your summer project (all mentors receive a stipend).
- You must clearly explain why your project is a 6-week or a 10-week project.
## Recent Acceptance Levels:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Accepted</th>
<th>Denied</th>
<th>Accept%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>54%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>83%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>71%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>79%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Proposals Accepted (Blue) and Denied (Red)
Helpful Tip # 1

(from here on, we are assuming that you have a good idea)

The Application

http://www.norwich.edu/academics/academicAffairs/pdf/research-student/appendix_D.pdf

- Explain your project and its significance in ways a non-specialist would understand.
Helpful Tip # 2

Spell out VERY CLEARLY what you propose to do and how you propose to do it.

The Application

http://www.norwich.edu/academics/academicAffairs/pdf/research-student/appendix_D.pdf
Demonstrate your awareness and understanding of the current body of scholarship in your field.
Discuss factors that might affect the feasibility of your research project.

The Application

http://www.norwich.edu/academics/academicAffairs/pdf/research-student/appendix_D.pdf
If applicable, discuss how your proposed research project fits into the project that your mentor is doing.

The Application

http://www.norwich.edu/academics/academicAffairs/pdf/research-student/appendix_D.pdf
Helpful Tip # 6

Be VERY specific in your proposed timetable.

A vague or unclear timetable will weaken your chances.
Preparing The Application

The proposed outline implies neither restraint on including other information, nor pressure to conform to a plan that may not be suitable for your project. A proposal may not require information under all headings.
Preparation of the Application

- The Committee needs to know what you wish to do, how you intend to do it, how realistic it is that you will be able to do it, when you will do it, how much it will cost, and the nature of the results you expect. The more simply and concisely this information is supplied, the stronger your application should be.
I. Applicant
   A. applicant’s name(s)
   B. applicant’s campus address
   C. faculty sponsor’s name
   D. date of application

II. Classification of Request
   Indicate whether this application is for a 10-week Fellowship or a 6-week Fellowship
III. *Nature of Project*

- A. project title
- B. general field of study in which you intend to work (e.g. History)
- C. the specific area in which you intend to work (e.g. The Russian Front during World War II)
IV. *Description of Proposed Work*

- Describe what you propose to do; discuss the relationship of this work to the current scholarship in the field.

- Cite key references, which should be critical and highly selective, rather than exhaustive.
V. Approach and Procedure

Give details and describe your approach. If appropriate, include descriptions of:

A. type of experiments/work being performed
B. background reading necessary to be conducted
C. methods and techniques being used
D. kinds of information sought
E. approach to analyze or interpret the information in C.
VI. *Significance of the Project*

- Mention any special or unusual ideas or contributions which your approach offers, and explain the potential importance of the proposed work.

- Be realistic!
The Application

VII. *Personal Qualifications and Endorsements*

- Tell us why you are the person who should be funded to do this project – relevant coursework, earlier projects, etc.
VIII. *Project Timetable*

- Prepare a time schedule, with the starting date, significant dates at which major portions of work will be done, and the anticipated completion date.

- Students who receive Summer Research Fellowships are expected to work full time on their research projects.
IX. *Terminal Report*

You will present a poster at the Faculty Scholarship Celebration (Fall) and the Student Scholarship Celebration (Spring). You will complete a report indicating the final results of your project.

(Note: this slide is out of numerical order, but it merely contains information about your obligations after the summer, rather than anything for the application itself.)
X. Facilities Involved

- Discuss the facilities you propose to use in your project (archives, equipment, etc.).

- This will not apply to all projects.
XI. Financial

A. **Budget**
   1. Equipment purchases
   2. Consumable supplies
   3. Travel expenses
   4. Other
   5. Total Budget (sum of 1 through 4)

B. **Funds Expected**
   1. Other support expected
   2. Anticipated income
   3. Total Funds Expected (sum of 1 and 2)

C. **Total Budget minus Total Funds Expected**

D. **Budget Justification**
   Provide a narrative justifying each item or set of items in the requested Budget above.
The Application

XII. References Cited

Present a bibliography of references cited, using a format generally accepted in your field of study. This should include all of the works that you referenced in your application. We do examine the quality of these sources.
The Application

QUESTIONS?