Questions I Ask Myself When Applying For Funding

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What is my proposal's main idea in one page?

What is my proposal's main idea *in one paragraph*?

What is my proposal's main idea *in one sentence*?

Are my proposal's main ideas clear to *someone in my direct research area*?

Are my proposal's main ideas clear to *someone in another SaTC sub-area*?

Why am I interested in doing the proposed work?

Why is it important
for my research community
that I complete the proposed work?

Why is it important
for the American taxpayer
that I complete the proposed work?

I am proposing that this work will take X years.
Will it actually take X years, or far less than that?

I am proposing that this work will take X years.
Is it *feasible* that I will complete it in X years?

I am proposing that this work will take X years.
Is it *likely* that I will complete it in X years?

What do I hope the community will learn if this work proceeds very successfully?

What do I hope the community will learn if this work *more or less fails*?

What am I pretty certain
the community will learn
if this work proceeds very successfully?

What am I pretty certain
the community will learn
if this work *more or less fails*?

Why is it hard to solve the key problems in this work?

Even though it is hard to solve the key problems in this work, *why is it plausible that I will do so*?

Why should my peers believe that I can complete this work successfully?

Why should my peers believe that I can complete this work successfully *based on work I previously published*?

Why should my peers believe that I can complete this work successfully *based on preliminary results I present*?

Why should my peers believe that I can complete this work successfully *based on the team I have assembled*?

Why should my peers believe that my team will collaborate successfully?

Am I being a respectful leader of my team?

Am I using the American taxpayer's money responsibly?

How will my project impact society?

How will my project impact
the research community?

How will my project impact
the US tech industry?

How will my project impact *other researchers*?

How will my project impact *shared infrastructure*?

How will my project
broaden participation in computing?

How will my project impact
the students in my research group?

What skills that are important for the American workforce will my students learn because of this project?

How will the students in my research group *impact the American taxpayer?*