

Proposal Writing Tips/How to be a successful applicant for Truman Fellowships

Idea Phase

Preparation

- Thoroughly read the guidelines: Ensure you understand all requirements, including eligibility, submission process, and evaluation criteria.
- Learn about previous Hruby and Truman fellows.
- Seek advice from mentors, previous fellows, or colleagues who have experience with similar proposals.

Truman Applicant Information Form

- Fill out the table at the end of this document with all information.

Interest Statement (500 words)

- What you have accomplished to date
 - What is the important problem that was solved in your work
- Research interests and professional goals
- Potential role of the fellowship in attaining career goals

Curriculum Vieta (CV)

In addition to traditional CV information, be sure to include the following:

- Research experiences
 - Highlight projects where you initiated and/or lead the project, including mentoring experiences
 - Note collaborative projects with other groups, particularly where you initiated the collaboration
- Communication Skills
 - Include traditional publications and conference/invited presentations
 - Highlight unique communication opportunities: workshop facilitation, teaching, public outreach, student governance, policy and advocacy engagement, etc
 - Include your (e.g., taught workshop to 50 students, successfully advocated for university policy change)
- Awards that you received
- Additional notable leadership, community building, or service experiences

Writing the Idea Proposal (Two-page proposal)

Two-page research idea with a clear objective of the research, the expected results, and the impact that the proposed work may have on Sandia's technical capabilities.

Answer the following questions in your proposal:

- What is the problem, why is it hard?
- How is it solved today?
- What is the new technical idea; why can we succeed now?
- What is the impact if successful?

Use 12-point font and 0.5-inch margins

Bibliography can be on a third page

Refer to www.sandia.gov for more information on mission and research areas: biological sciences; earth, energy and environmental science; engineering sciences; materials and advanced manufacturing; math, computing and information science, nanodevices and microsystems; physical sciences; and radiation effects and high energy density sciences.

Mission Alignment

- Demonstrate how your research aligns with Sandia's [national security mission](#) by reviewing the Sandia website and the [research focused page](#).

Final Steps

- Submission Requirements: Double-check that all submission requirements are met, including page limits, font size, and required documents.
- Early Submission: Aim to submit your application packet well before the deadline to avoid last-minute issues.

Truman Applicant Information Form

Applicant Name	
Applicant Email Address	
Applicant Phone Number	
Title of Proposed Research Project	
Degree Field	
PhD Granting Institution	
Year of Receipt or Expected Date	
Doctoral Thesis/Dissertation Topic	
Reference #1 Name (Thesis Advisor)	
Reference #1 Email (Thesis Advisor)	
Reference #2 Name (non-Sandia reference familiar with your technical experience)	
Reference #2 Email (non-Sandia reference familiar with your technical experience)	
Reference #3 Name (Sandia employee allowed, but not required)	
Reference #3 Email (Sandia employee allowed, but not required)	
Names of Sandians in your area of interest	
How did you hear about this opportunity?	

