



From the MIT Center for Environmental Health Sciences The CEHS PageOne Program

Support for Grant Proposal Writing Where it Matters Most: The Specific Aims Page

The Specific Aims Page of any grant is the most important page of the entire proposal. If this page is strong, the reviewer moves on with an optimistic perspective for the rest of the proposal. If it is weak, it can be detrimental to the rest of the grant. The PageOne program is designed to support CEHS Junior Faculty in the development of successful grant applications by providing feedback on their Specific Aims page from CEHS Senior Faculty.

Writing PageOne to have the Potential for a 1.0

Writing a Specific Aims Page requires not only great scientific ideas, but it also requires compelling and straight forward language that convinces the reviewers that the project is worthy of support. Finding the optimal balance of scientific details with background information, and statements of significance, can be challenging.

PageOne Coaches Provide Guidance to Refine the Specific Aims Page and Provide Connections to Resources and Collaborators

In addition to providing support for writing the grant proposal itself, feedback from Senior faculty at the earliest stages of grant proposal preparation can open doors for additional support. Senior faculty are knowledgeable about what CEHS has to offer, as well as what other Centers and Departments can provide. They can sometimes point to additional sources of funding, and to potential collaborators.

How to Apply to the PageOne Program

Senior level CEHS faculty have been designated as Coaches for the PageOne Program. These faculty are highly successful in grant writing themselves, and have also served on study section, such that they understand the perspective of the reviewers. Reviewers include: John Essigmann, Bevin Engelward, Pete Dedon, Gerald Wogan, Leona Samson, Jerry Wogan, and Harry Hemond. Additional CEHS faculty can also serve on an as-needed basis to provide additional breadth of expertise. To request feedback for your Specific Aims Page, please email Bevin Engelward (bevin@mit.edu). She will help you directly as well as connecting you to appropriate faculty who can serve as your PageOne Coach.