

Citations must be complete. All authors must be named in the order that they appeared in the publication. The title of the publication should appear next, followed by the name of the journal or book it appeared in. Next, give the volume number, inclusive pagination and the year of publication. If necessary, have your references retyped to make sure that they conform to this format. If you know the URL for a publication that is available on-line it can be included in the citation, in contrast to what is allowable in the body of the Project Description (Chapter II, Section C.2.d(ii) of the *Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide*). Inclusion of URLs in the References Cited section is optional.

We recommend that you arrange your references in alphabetical order by the first author's last name. This is maximally reviewer friendly when you cite references in the text using author, year. We additionally recommend that you use hanging-indent format, i.e., first line of each reference beginning at the left margin with subsequent lines indented one tab. This approach saves space by individualizing references without opening a line between each of them.

DEVELOPMENTAL STEPS FOR CHAPTER THIRTEEN:

“BACKGROUND” SECTION

“Review of Relevant Literature” Subsection:

1. Title the subsection Review of Relevant Literature, not "Background."
2. Write this subsection after you have written the Research Plan section.
3. Use this subsection to justify the need for what you are proposing, i.e., make sure that it supports the need for the contributions that you expect to make.
4. Cite primary literature in this section, not review articles or book chapters.
5. Ensure that this subsection is completely up to date, especially if you are submitting a revision of a previously reviewed proposal.
6. Be sure to cite the work of researchers who you will recommend as potential reviewers of your application.
7. Make certain that your citations of the literature are balanced, i.e., not too many of your own or that support only your point of view.
8. At the end of the subsection create a segue that will provide a seamless transition into the next two subsections.

“Results From Prior NSF Support” Subsection:

9. Determine whether either you or Co-PIs on the application with you have had NSF research support during the last five years (from the date of submission of this proposal).
10. If you have had such support, describe it within the Project Description, not as a separate part of the application.
11. The summary of each prior NSF grant must have two subsections, "Intellectual Merit" and "Broader Impacts."
12. Describe prior NSF support using the mandatory points stipulated by the *Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide*, Chapter II, Section C.2.d.(iii).
13. Describe unrelated prior support as briefly as possible. Present the stipulated information sequentially, not as a bulleted list.
14. Develop the mandatory points more extensively for related prior support, especially if the current application is a renewal of prior support.