

EHE

# RESEARCH METHODOLOGY CENTER

## 5 REASONS WHY YOU NEED THE RMC WHEN Writing a Grant Proposal

BY SANDY REED, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, RMC

### You are new to the university.

The RMC is the first place to visit as you build your research community. Ohio State is a big place and it can take a long time to find others with common research methods and interests. We make it our business to meet resource providers across the campus and help you connect with them.

### You are new to the topic.

Is your research taking on a new direction? There could be data out there that are ready to use! The RMC can help you connect with existing secondary data sets that can support the significance of your study and its potential impact. The RMC will help you get access to secondary data sets and computing resources.

### You are new to the design or method.

If you have a question about a research method, it's very likely others have the same question! The RMC can help you design a rigorous study, apply methods correctly and write about them in a way that is clear and compelling.

### You are new to the funder or mechanism.

The RMC can help you pull out the key methodological issues that will affect your grant score and your chances of getting funded. Every national funding agency relies on expert methodologists to review your proposal. Why not start with the end in mind?

### You just want to talk about your study.

We like to talk about research, methods and ideas and we will spend the time necessary to learn about your work, your research questions and your needs. Our consultants will ask key questions, talk through alternatives and be a sounding board for

your ideas. If you work with the RMC early and often during proposal development, we can help you design a top-notch study.

For more information about RMC, contact [Sandy Reed](#).

## Power Analysis for the Quantitative Proposal: How Many Participants is Enough?

Your sponsor wants to know that your study, as proposed, maximizes the likelihood of identifying significant relationships or effects if they exist. Conducting an a priori power analysis to estimate the required sample size for your study is a critical step in writing a competitive proposal. The RMC consulting team has created a web resource that reviews the basic concepts involved in power analysis, and demonstrates a series of tools that you can use to estimate the required sample size under different study design conditions. If you would like to learn more, visit our [Power Page](#) or contact us for support!

### RMC Grants-based Services

Whether you are an experienced grant writer or a beginner, the RMC has services that are designed to help you be a successful investigator.

### Individual Consulting

By appointment. Send us an email with the word “consulting” in the subject line. Tell us about your question and we will contact you to discuss your needs and schedule a time to meet.

### Resources for Qualitative and Mixed-Methods Inquiry

Qualitative and mixed-designs can be used to strengthen understanding of phenomena in natural settings, bring clarity to cultural issues, direct improvements in intervention or program implementation, and shed light on how to communicate science effectively to the public – among many other substantive areas of research inquiry. Federal agencies are interested in supporting rigorous qualitative and mixed methods research. The [Institute for Education Sciences](#) has a compelling blog post for researchers seeking to build their research capacity focusing on mixed-methods. A recent webinar by the [National Institutes of Health](#) emphasizes qualitative data collection, analysis techniques and tools. Do you have a question involving qualitative or mixed-methods? Ask the RMC – we can help you find the resources needed to support your research.

## CONTACT US

Research Methodology Center

173 Arps Hall

[rmc@osu.edu](mailto:rmc@osu.edu)

[rmc.ehe.osu.edu](http://rmc.ehe.osu.edu)