**Project Title:** *Be succinct.*

**Investigator:** *Your name.*

**Department:**

**Introduction (approximately 1 page; 2-3 paragraphs):**

*Briefly introduce the subject matter and tell us why it is important with respect to oral health. Include the findings of any studies which are of direct relevance or have guided your studies, and identify the gap in knowledge or state the problem to be addressed.*

*Suggested organization:*

1. *Significance – what is the subject and why is it important?*
2. *Background - what do we know about it?*
3. *Identify the gap in current knowledge.*
4. *State objectives or purpose of this study.*
5. *Explain any rationale and/or benefits that will arise from the proposed study.*

*The above is all in a narrative form.*

**Hypothesis (1-2 lines):**

*State the hypothesis which you will test as a single sentence. Avoid null hypotheses.*

**Specific aims (8-12 lines):**

Aims: B*riefly list the individual goals/approaches you will use to prove/disprove your hypothesis. You may have more than one specific aim/goal, which will address your hypothesis; these can be listed as separate bullet points (Aim 1; Aim 2 etc.).* ***Briefly*** *given the general approach you will take to achieve the Aim, and how the results will help achieve the overall objective(s).*

**Experimental Design and Methods (up to 2 pages):**

*If more than one specific aim, list these as separate subheadings. Briefly state how each specific aim will be achieved. State what is being tested or compared and what the outcomes are (i.e. what parameters are being measured and how they will be expressed…actual measurements). Give enough information that someone outside your field can get a ‘feel’ for your experimental design/how each experiment works, including the important controls for the experiments and comparisons in the analysis. This narrative should be followed with a more detailed Methods section describing various assays or experimental tests.*

**Data analysis (up to half page):**

*How will the data be analyzed? What statistical tests will be needed and how many replicates/events will be needed for significance? You may need consultation with the Statistical Core. If so, refer to the Statistical Core Guidelines on the Learning Center.*

**Expected results/interpretation (up to half page):**

*Briefly, state what you expect to find for each specific aim. How will your data be interpreted as it pertains to the objective and overall significance of the project?*

**Future Directions (1-2 paragraphs):**

*Describe how the project will be leveraged for future funding, projects, or scholarly activity*

**Budget:**

*State what your major expenditures will be with approximate amounts for each item.*

**Citations:**

*List any important publications which helped shape your proposal. These should be cited* ***within*** *the body of the text, at the* ***point of referral*** *(e.g. Simmons et al., 2002); and then the full citations listed at the end of the proposal.*

**Mentoring Plan (if applicable):**

*You may choose to set up a structured mentoring plan with meetings or works in progress with more senior faculty with expertise in the field or scientific experience.*