

Effective NIH Biosketches: Selecting and Documenting Products

Kris Alpi, Associate Dean of Libraries and Information Sciences

January 13, 2026

Kris.alpi@mssm.edu



**Icahn School
of Medicine at
Mount
Sinai**

Topics for Today

- NIH Changes to the Review Process
- Effective Biosketches
 - Selecting and Supporting Products (**Max 10 instead of ≤ 24**)
 - Personal Statements and Contributions to Science
- Efficient Biosketch Management

NIH Changes in Biosketch Format and Directions to Grant Reviewers

NIH change to how reviewers look at Biosketches

Five regulatory criteria reorganized into three factors

For due dates before
Jan 25, 2025

(all considered in overall impact score)

- **Significance** - scored
- **Investigator(s)** - scored
- **Innovation** - scored
- **Approach** - scored
- **Environment** - scored



For due dates on/after Jan
25, 2025

- **Factor 1 : Importance of the Research**
 - Significance, Innovation
 - Scored 1 - 9
- **Factor 2 : Rigor and Feasibility**
 - Approach (also includes Inclusion and Clinical Trial (CT) Study Timeline)
 - Scored 1 - 9
- **Factor 3 : Expertise and Resources**
 - Investigators, Environment
 - Evaluated as appropriate or gaps identified; gaps require explanation
 - Considered in overall impact; no individual score

Can the investigator or team do the work?

- Biosketch is main evidence to answer that question
 - Supported by your **Products**
 - In the **Contributions to Science** section, you will describe your role in advancing science
 - Terminology from Contributor Roles Taxonomy (credit.niso.org) may be helpful
- Reviewers told not to look at links or additional information beyond the PubMed citations.
- Reviewers from other disciplines may not recognize journal prestige to communicate the impact of your work. **You will need to tell that impact story.**

Instructions on evaluating expertise

Factor 3. Expertise and Resources

Investigator(s)

Evaluate whether the investigator(s) have demonstrated background, training, and expertise, as appropriate for their career stage, to conduct the proposed work. For Multiple Principal Investigator (MPI) applications, assess the quality of the leadership plan to facilitate coordination and collaboration.

Environment

Evaluate whether the institutional resources are appropriate to ensure the successful execution of the proposed work.

Can the investigator or team do the work?

- NEW TERMINOLOGY/APPROACH
 - Supported by your list of up to **5 Products specific to the project** described in the **NIH Biographical Sketch Supplement**
- FAMILIAR FROM PRIOR BIOSKETCH
 - Up to 5 other significant products in the **Contributions to Science** section

Effective Biosketches – Products, Contributions, Citations

Changes in the Biosketch citation locations

Notable changes for the Biographical Sketch are as follows:

Current NIH Biosketch	Biographical Sketch Common Form	NIH Biographical Sketch Supplement
Education/Training	Professional Preparation	Not Applicable
A. Personal Statement: Narrative and 4 product citations.	Products: <i>Products Most Closely Related to the Proposed Project</i> , limit 5 citations.	Personal Statement: No citations allowed. Can provide narrative for <i>Personal Statement</i> including information on the <i>Products Most Closely Related to the Proposed Project</i> , cited in the <i>Products</i> section of the Biographical Sketch Common Form. Field is limited to 3,500 characters.
B. Positions, Scientific Appointments and Honors	Appointments and Positions: Must only identify all domestic and foreign professional appointments and positions outside of the primary organization for a period up to three years from the date the applicant submits the application to the agency for funding consideration.	Honors: Limited to no more than 15 entries.
C. Contributions to Science: Up to 5 narrative contribution descriptions, each allowed to include citations for up to 4 products.	Products: Can provide up to 5 other significant products that highlight the senior/key person's Contributions to Science. The NIH Biographical Sketch Supplement will provide the opportunity to describe these contributions in more depth.	Contributions to Science: No citations allowed. Can provide up to 5 narrative contributions to science. Each entry is limited up to 2,000 characters. You may refer to products listed in the Other Significant Products section of your Biographical Sketch Common Form that are relevant to the contributions described in this section.

Move citations from existing **Personal Statement** to Common Form **Products**, either “Products Most Closely Related to the Proposed Project” OR “Other Significant Products”

Citations from your existing **Contribution to Science** should move to **Products**, either “Products Most Closely Related to the Proposed Project” OR “Other Significant Products”

Decision Point – Which 10 to include?

Max 10 instead of ≤ 24

Relatedness to Project. If you can make the case that these are Project-related, put them on that list. If this is a new area for you, consider how to make the case that something is closely related.

Only 5 not closely related to Project.

How to choose among the ~20 references you had before in Contribution to Sciences to narrow it down to 5.

- Most cited? [sort Google Scholar Profile or author search in Scopus or Web of Science by Times Cited]
- Most prestigious journal?
- Oldest and newest? [Tell the story of we've been advancing this field for a long time]

Levy Library's Ask a Librarian Service can assist you in finding the citation counts and journal impact factors for your list of citations. Contact us with your list at askalibrarian@mssm.edu or email refdesk@mssm.edu

NIH Biographical Sketch Common Form - Products

- **Products**

- List up to 5.
- Closely related to proposed project
- Need to be in either MyBibliography or ORCID to be able to select them
- Describe in the Personal Statement section of the Biographical Sketch Supplement

- **Other Significant Products-Contributions to Science**

- List up to 5
- No specific format; recommended to refer to the title, use the author's last name, publication, and/or year of publication.
- May mention research products under development

C. Products

Provide a list of: (i) up to five products closely related to the proposed project; and (ii) up to five other significant products that highlight the senior/key person's Contributions to Science. The NIH Biographical Sketch Supplement will provide the opportunity to describe these contributions in more depth while referencing the other significant products cited in this section.

It is up to the individual to determine how to best organize this listing to demonstrate their ability to carry out the project. Acceptable products must be citable and accessible including but not limited to:

[What are acceptable products?](#) ^

- publications, conference papers, and presentations;
- website(s) or other Internet site(s);
- technologies or techniques;
- inventions, patents, patent applications, and/or licenses; and
- other products, such as data, databases, or datasets, physical collections, audio or video products, software, models, educational aids or curricula, instruments or equipment, research material, interventions (e.g., clinical or educational), or new business creation.

Each product must follow the [NIH Policy on Use of Hypertext in NIH Grant Applications](#) and include full citation information:

[What is included in a full product citation?](#) ^

- names of authors;
- product title;
- date of publication or release;
- website URL;
- other persistent identifier (if available); and
- other relevant citation information (e.g., in the case of publications, title of enclosing work such as journal or book, volume, issue, pages).
- If any of the items specified above is not applicable, enter N/A

Digital object identifier (DOI); persistent URL (PURL), etc.

Selecting Products

Products Closely Related to the Proposed Project *

Select up to 5 products

My Bibliography

ORCID

7 citations

Search citations

Sort by: Publication Date

☒

Alpi KM. Understanding learning from others' prior experience in veterinary education [Internet] Raleigh, NC: North Carolina State University; 2018. Available from: <https://repository.lib.ncsu.edu/bitstream/handle/1840.20/35076/etd.pdf>.

☐

Alpi KM, Johnson JR, Langford ME. [Characterizing History of Health Sciences Organizations at Academic Health Sciences Centers](#). J Hist Med Allied Sci. 2023 Mar 23; 78(1):9-19. doi: 10.1093/jhmas/jrac041. PubMed PMID: 36749627.

☐

Lloyd JK, Alpi KM, Hoogland MA, Stephenson PL, Meyer E. [Interlibrary loan and document delivery in North American health sciences libraries during the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic](#). J Med Libr Assoc. 2022 Jul 1; 110(3):348-357. doi: 10.5195/jmla.2022.1452. PubMed PMID: 36589302; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC9782377.

☐

Alpi KM. [We are all public health](#). J Med Libr Assoc. 2007 Jul; 95(3):229-31. doi: 10.3163/1536-5050.95.3.229. PubMed PMID: 17641749; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC1924947.

☐

Alpi KM, Bibel BM. Meeting the Health Information Needs of Diverse Populations. Library Trends. 2004; 53(2):268-82.

☐

Alpi K. Bioinformatics training by librarians and for librarians: developing the skills needed to support molecular biology and clinical genetics information instruction. Issues in Science and Technology Librarianship. 2003.

☐

Alpi KM. Multicultural health information seeking: achieving cultural competency in the library. Journal of Hospital Librarianship. 2001; 1(2):51-59.

3 products saved

CONTINUE

Add Product is for PubMed included-items only

Manage My Bibliography allows manual adding of anything

[ADD PRODUCT](#)

[MANAGE MY BIBLIOGRAPHY](#)

HINTS

- Add to either MyBibliography or ORCID to be able to select them
- Linked titles, etc. will not appear in final version.
- [Include the PMC reference number \(PMCID\)](#) when citing [applicable papers](#) that arise from your NIH-funded research.

Adding Products to MyBibliography

Add citation manually

Choose the type of citation to create:

Journal article that does not appear in PubMed

Journal article that does not appear in PubMed

* Required field

Books and chapters

Meeting abstracts

Presentations

Patents

Dataset or database

Software

Preprint

Other(non - standard citation)

Clear all fields

Journal

Publication Date



DD

YYYY



Forthcoming

Volume

Issue

Page

URL

Unique ID

Type

PMCID

Add Citation

Cancel

What are acceptable products? ^

- publications, conference papers, and presentations;
- website(s) or other Internet site(s);
- technologies or techniques;
- inventions, patents, patent applications, and/or licenses; and
- other products, such as data, databases, or datasets, physical collections, audio or video products, software, models, educational aids or curricula, instruments or equipment, research material, interventions (e.g., clinical or educational), or new business creation.

Each product must follow the [NIH Policy on Use of Hypertext in NIH Grant Applications](#) and include full citation information:

What is included in a full product citation? ^

- names of authors;
 - product title;
 - date of publication or release;
 - website URL;
 - other persistent identifier (if available); and
 - other relevant citation information (e.g., in the case of publications, title of enclosing work such as journal or book, volume, issue, pages).
- Digital object identifier (DOI); persistent URL (PURL), etc.
- If any of the items specified above is not applicable, enter N/A

- **Follow the guidance about including the fields or N/A as you create the manual citations.**
- **Description text you enter in MyBibliography will not appear in the citation.**
- **You will not be providing a MyBibliography link to your entire bibliography.**

Adding Products - ORCID

Products Closely Related to the Proposed Project *

Select up to 5 products

My Bibliography

ORCID

88 citations

Search citations

Sort by: Publication Date

REFRESH FROM ORCID

☒

Lessick S, Perryman C, Billman BL, Alpi KM, De Groote SL, Babin TD Jr. [Research engagement of health sciences librarians: a survey of research-related activities and attitudes](#). J Med Libr Assoc. 2016 Apr; 104(2):166-73. doi: 10.3163/1536-5050.104.2.015. PubMed PMID: 27076808; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC4816469.

EDIT AUTHORS

☒

Mazure, E.S., Alpi, K.M.. Librarian readiness for research partnerships. Journal of the Medical Library Association. 2015; 103(2):91-95. doi: 10.3163/1536-5050.103.2.007.

EDIT AUTHORS

☐

Kris Alpi. Thank You to Journal of Scientific Innovation in Medicine Reviewers in 2022, 2023, and 2024. Journal of Scientific Innovation in Medicine. 2025 May. doi: 10.29024/jsim.247.

EDIT AUTHORS

☐

Caitlin J. Bakker, Jessica A. Koos, Margaret A. Hoogland, Debra Rand, Kristine M. Alpi. Correction to "An Exploration of Journals Requested by Health Sciences Libraries through DOCLINE Interlibrary Loan During the Early COVID-19 Pandemic". Issues in Science and Technology Librarianship. 2024 March; (105). doi: 10.29173/istl2801.

EDIT AUTHORS

☐

Kristine M Alpi, Kayla Del Biondo, Melissa Rethlefsen. Evolving from public health libraries as a place to focus on public health librarian expertise. Journal of the Medical Library Association. 2024 May. doi: 10.5195/jmla.2024.1804.

EDIT AUTHORS

☐

Kristine Alpi, Julie Esparza, Brenda Green, Shannon Jones. The evolution of our profession and association from 1998-2023: reflections from four Medical Library Association leaders. Journal of the Medical Library Association

EDIT AUTHORS

3 products saved

CONTINUE

NIH permits the use of "et al." in place of listing all authors

- For long author list, could do this after your name in the author list.
- If you are in the middle (Smith ED...Jones AR...et al.) or end (Smith ED...Jones AR) can work

SciENcv uses the NLM/Vancouver/AMA style (see Citing Medicine).

Include the PMC reference number (PMCID) when citing applicable papers that arise from your NIH-funded research.

Editing narratives about Products

- **Discussing Products in Personal Statement and Contributions to Science**
 - All products should be either completely self-explanatory or clearly discussed.
 - Ensure that any narrative referring to the products is clear about which product is being discussed.
 - Format not specified – NIH recommends referring to the title, use the author's last name et al., publication, and/or year of publication.
 - May mention research products under development
 - Special formatting from prior SciENCv biosketch Markdown language (e.g. ** for bold) is NOT supported. Users can use all CAPS and/or line breaks.
 - Your **Personal Statement** is limited to 3,500 characters and that includes spaces and line breaks.
 - Each **Contribution to Science** entry is limited to 2,000 characters and that includes spaces and line breaks.

Efficient Biosketch Management

Start with a SciENcv Base Biosketch – then convert it across funders or projects to new versions

- From your PubMed Dashboard, bottom right corner. Direct at www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/labs/sciencv/
- Create base biosketch in the NIH Biographical Sketch Format.
- Once you have a base biosketch, you can choose “Use an existing document in SciENcv” to autopopulate a new format.
- Customize your choices of Products relevant to that proposal
 - E.g. a Training Grant proposal might cite your Products on curriculum or mentoring that would not be in your R01 biosketch.

MY NCBI > SCIENCv

SciENcv

My Profile

Name:

Title/Department:

ORCID ID:

eRA Commons ID:

Create a New Document

Asterisks (*) indicate required fields.

Document Name *
New Common Biosketch

Document type *
DOE Biographical Sketch
DOE Current and Pending (Other) Support
NIH Biosketch
NIH Fellowship Biosketch
NIH Biographical Sketch Common Form
NIH Current and Pending (Other) Support Common Form
NSF Biographical Sketch
NSF Current and Pending (Other) Support
USDA Biographical Sketch
USDA Current and Pending (Other) Support

My Documents

Last Updated ↓

12/17/25

2/3/25

Helpful Links

About SciENcv

How to Use SciENcv

NEW DOCUMENT

Delete

Limited Products

The previous document contained more than 5 products. The first 5 products have been imported. Only 5 may be selected. Please review and edit accordingly.

CONTINUE

Thank you!
Any questions?

**You are invited to
Levy Library's
Mount
Sinai Book Authors and
Editors event, on
Thursday, January
29 from 12:15-1:00 pm.**

library@mssm.edu



Thank you.



Icahn School of Medicine at
Mount Sinai

ICAHN MEDICAL INSTITUTE

1425



Icahn School
of Medicine at
**Mount
Sinai**