**SPECIFIC AIMS**

- This section is limited to 1 page.
- A proposed outline is included below:

Introductory paragraph:
- *Describe the unmet medical need and/or gaps in our biomedical knowledge and why this is an important topic of study.*

Goals and hypothesis paragraph:
- *Succinctly state your long term goal, the specific objective of this proposal, the central hypothesis for the project and the rationale for that hypothesis*

The Aims:
- *Clearly state your aims, followed by a 1-2 sentence description of that aim and how it connects to the central hypothesis.*

The summary/pay-off paragraph:
- *End with a succinct summary of the major impacts on the field of successfully completing this project.*
RESEARCH STRATEGY (F-SERIES)

The Research Strategy section is limited to a total of 6 pages and must include the sections outlined below. If you are applying to a special announcement (i.e. the title of the announcement does not include “Parent F##” at the end of the title), review the instructions in the solicitation carefully to determine if additional sections are required.

SIGNIFICANCE
- We recommend this section be ~ 1-1.5 pages. We strongly recommend it be no more than 2.
- Explain the importance of the problem or critical barrier to progress in the field that the proposed project addresses.
- Explain how the proposed project will improve scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice in one or more broad fields.
- Describe how the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventive interventions that drive this field will be changed if the proposed aims are achieved.

APPROACH
- Describe the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses to be used to accomplish the specific aims of the project. Unless addressed separately in Item 16 (Resource Sharing Plan), include how the data will be collected, analyzed, and interpreted, as well as any resource sharing plans as appropriate.
- As applicable, also include information on any preliminary studies (including published and unpublished results) indicating progress toward the aims.
- Discuss anticipated results, potential problems & alternative strategies to achieve the aims.
- If the project is in the early stages of development, describe any strategy to establish feasibility, and address the management of any high risk aspects of the proposed work.
- Point out any procedures, situations, or materials that may be hazardous to personnel and precautions to be exercised. A full discussion on the use of select agents should appear in a separate document labeled “Select Agents”
- Include any courses that you plan to take to support the research training experience.
- A suggested outline is included below.

Aim 1: XXX
Rationale:
Preliminary Data:
Research Design:
Anticipated Results, Potential Pitfalls & Alternative Approaches:

Aim 2: XXX
Rationale:
Preliminary Data:
Research Design:
Anticipated Results, Potential Pitfalls & Alternative Approaches:

Aim 3: XXX
Rationale:
Preliminary Data:
Research Design:
Anticipated Results, Potential Pitfalls & Alternative Approaches:

Timeline
This section should include any references cited in the proposal. The references should be limited to relevant and current literature. While there is not a page limitation, it is important to be concise and to select only those literature references pertinent to the proposed research.