

Frequently Asked Questions

QUESTION	ANSWER
Who can use Hanover's services?	You must be a faculty member with a primary appointment at SIUC campus to use Hanover's services.
What types of grants will Hanover work with?	Hanover works with many different grant mechanisms including individual grants (e.g. K, R01, R21, R03), program project grants, center grants, new submissions, resubmissions, and competing renewal applications. For resubmissions of unfunded proposals and competing renewal applications, PIs will be asked to provide a copy of the original submission along with reviewers' comments (e.g., summary statement). Hanover will not review grants for internal competitions
Is there a fee associated with using Hanover's grant consultation services?	No, Hanover's services are generously supported by the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research.
How do I request support for Hanover services on my proposal?	The application form can be found here. The OVCR will collaborate with Hanover to manage and confirm requests, ensuring they align with our contract terms. Once your project request is approved, Hanover's contact at SIUC will reach out to you directly to schedule a brief scoping call. During this call, you'll confirm the project details and establish a timeline for Hanover's support. .
How far ahead must I request Hanover's services? What is the turn-around time for Hanover to get my proposal back to me?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Planning and consultation</u>: Consultation and planning guidance to ensure alignment with funding mechanism and to evaluate key concerns relating to project competitiveness. (1- 2 weeks) • <u>Proposal Review</u>: Critique of proposal content focused on compliance and alignment with the funding mechanism and improving grantsmanship aspects of the proposal. (2 weeks) • <u>Proposal Revision</u>: Editing and revision of proposals for a polished final draft, with an eye toward funder compliance, grantsmanship, style/ presentation, and overall competitiveness. (3 weeks) • <u>Expedited Timelines</u>: If the PI provides advanced notice 3 weeks prior to delivery of the draft to Hanover, the PI can lock in a 1-week turnaround for proposal review or revision. <p>(Timelines may be extended for center level and multi core proposals.)</p>

<p>How are projects selected for the Hanover queue?</p>	<p>The OVCR manages the pipeline of projects submitted to Hanover Research. Several factors are taken into consideration when evaluating projects for Hanover Research, including but not limited to the faculty member’s willingness to share proposal materials and honor agreed-upon deadlines, the completeness of proposal documents, sponsor deadlines, and current pipeline capacity. Every effort is made to accommodate all PI requests, but some worthwhile projects may not be accepted into the pipeline due to this limitation (check also Prioritization Factors)</p>
<p>What documents am I required to submit to Hanover?</p>	<p>For proposal reviews and revisions, most faculty submit the narrative components of the application (e.g., abstract, specific aims, research strategy, project description, etc.). Please note, for resubmissions of unfunded proposals and competing renewal applications, PIs will be asked to provide a copy of the original submission along with reviewers’ comments (e.g., summary statement).</p>
<p>How does Hanover work with each PI?</p>	<p>After a PI project is accepted in Hanover Research’s pipeline, Hanover Research emails the PI to introduce the assigned grants consultant. Consultation sessions are generally one hour in length and take place via conference call. For proposal review and revision services, Hanover Research first schedules a project initiation conference call prior to the start of work. Project initiation calls give the PI an opportunity to discuss specific areas of concern with the assigned grants consultant and to share reviewer feedback (if available). After Hanover releases its deliverables, the PI is afforded the opportunity for a debrief conference call to discuss Hanover’s critique and to address any outstanding questions or concerns</p>
<p>How does Hanover protect the confidentiality of investigator materials?</p>	<p>Any proposal materials that an investigator shares with Hanover remain confidential. Materials will only be shared with the Hanover content director and the single consultant working on their proposal</p>
<p>What parts of a research proposal will Hanover critique?</p>	<p>Hanover’s proposal critiques focus on the narrative components of research proposals – namely the specific aims page, research strategy, and (for resubmissions) the introduction. For resubmission proposals, the PI should be prepared to provide a copy of the unfunded proposal along with reviewer feedback.</p>
<p>Will Hanover be reviewing the underlying science/scientific merit of my proposal?</p>	<p>Hanover makes no claim that its grants consultants are subject matter experts who can evaluate the specific science underpinning a research proposal. Rather, Hanover’s value lies in its understanding of proposal and agency nuances that can help investigators competitively reframe proposals in response to a specific solicitation. Hanover seeks to achieve cohesion in the</p>

	<p>grant narrative and to align the proposal with funding requirements. A Hanover grant consultant may address general scientific elements of a proposal, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Construct or structure of the hypothesis and methodology:</u> While Hanover does not purport to provide “scientific reviews” that evaluate the specific science underpinning proposals, its grants consultants will flag where they think research questions, aims, and hypotheses could be strengthened and better aligned. • <u>Literature review:</u> Hanover grants consultants will note places where a citation is needed and has not been included. • <u>Clarity and focus:</u> When Hanover suspects that narrative content lacks sufficient clarity, consistency, or rigor, Hanover grants consultants will pose questions to encourage the investigator to verify the science, and/or suggest a review by a senior colleague or program officer
<p>Does Hanover have experience with a wide range of funders?</p>	<p>Yes, Hanover has experience with many federal, private, and nonprofit funders. Representative funders include the NIH, NSF, DOD, PCORI, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation</p>
<p>Are Hanover consultants included as significant contributors in a grant submission?</p>	<p>No, Hanover consultants are not written into the proposals as scientific experts. The feedback being provided is from a grantsmanship, not an agency perspective. Hanover can speak to the general approach to the science and the way the project is developed, but they don't do a deep dive into the hard science</p>