

Tailoring your Biosketch

Objective: "Your biosketch isn't a CV, it's a scored evidence of fit."

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What reviewers look for in your Biosketch?

Question: Can this team do this project now?

Demonstrate that you CAN conduct this project by:

- 1. Clarify your role/task in the project
- 2. **Show** a track record that matches this topic
- 3. **Name** facilities, partners, and resources
- 4. **Evidence** of impact: training, open science





Great Biosketch, Step by Step

- 1. **Read the call.** Highlight 5–7 exact keywords.
- 2. **Use the right template.** Match the sponsor's headings and order.
- 3. **Tailoring Matrix.** Call keyword → Demonstrate → Evidence → where it goes.
- 4. Personal Statement.
- Products (≤5). Each with one metric/ID (DOI, users, citations, accuracy).
- 6. Synergistic/Contributions. One-line impacts with numbers + links.
- Quick Check. Call words present template correct links work ≤5 products titles/effort consistent.



Step 1: Read the Call

- Highlight 5–7 exact keywords from the call
- Note required sections (NSF/NIH/NASA/DOE differ)
- Capture review criteria



Step 2: Use the right template (non-negotiable)

- Use sponsor template exactly (headings + order)
- No extra or missing sections
- Update to the current version

Examples:

- NSF (SciENcv): Appointments | Products (≤5) | Synergistic Activities
- NIH (SciENcv): Personal Statement | Positions/Honors | Contributions
 to Science (≤5; each ≤4 products)
- DOE/DoD/NASA/USDA: Follow FOA wording



Step 3: Tailoring Matrix

Sponsor priority/ Call keyword	Demonstration	Evidence (pubs/data/code/awards)	Where it goes
"Use-inspired AI"	Deployed model in ops	Code+dataset DOI; user stats	Products
"Workforce development"	Trained 10 UGs / REU	Module link; mentoring outcomes	Synergistic Activities
"Transition to practice"	Partnered with industry	field trial results	Personal Statement / Contributions



Step 4: Personal Statement (if required)

- 1. What you do (domain + method) tied to call words
- 2. Why you're ready now (recent results, paper)
- What you'll deliver (matches the call)

Example:

"I integrate [method] to address [priority]. Recently I [led X to Y outcome], enabling [impact]. This project leverages [capability/data/partners] to deliver [criterion words] within [period]."



Step 5: Choose Products (≤5)

- Pick 3–5 items that prove fit now
- Include papers and non-papers (data, code, tools, deployments)
- Add one metric/ID each (DOI, users, citations, accuracy)



Step 6: Synergistic/Contributions (by agency)

- Open science: datasets, code, documentation
- Training/mentoring: REU, curriculum, workshops (with counts)
- Broader impacts: K-12, community
- Service with purpose: standards, panels, community tools



Step 7: Quick Final Check

- → Call keywords up front (exact wording appears in first lines)
- → Template compliant (correct sections + order; latest version)
- → Products: 3–5 only, each with one metric/ID (DOI, users, accuracy)
- → All links work (DOIs, repos, datasets open)
- → Consistency check (names, titles, roles, effort match other docs)
- → Within limits (pages counts; no extra sections)



Thank you!

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