

*Remove all instructional text (leaving the headings) before generating your .pdf file. A three-page limit (including graphics) will be enforced. Safety considerations and references may spill over to the third page. Use font no smaller than 12 point. Additional guidance on how to write a competitive proposal can be found [here](#). Address each of the following sections:*

## **Proposal Title**

### **Abstract:**

Summarize your proposal. Given the limited page count, be clear, yet succinct. It is best to limit this to < 300 words. This paragraph is generally composed after the rest of the proposal is written so that a comprehensive summary may be constructed.

### **Background/Significance:**

Summarize the research topic, material(s), and associated barriers or unknowns. The significance of the research question being addressed should also be discussed. Describe any previous results and/or supporting characterization/calculations performed at your institution. Remember that reviewers may not be precisely in your area of research.

### **Specific Aims:**

What are your scientific objectives and hypotheses? Be explicit. This is best achieved with a numerical list.

### **Planned Experiments:**

What measurements will be performed to test your scientific hypotheses or achieve scientific objectives. A numerical list is often used here which specifically addresses the aims described in the prior section. Include mention of the SSRL beam lines you intend to use. Provide a summary of shifts allocated per experiment across the two-year proposal duration.

### **Data Interpretation Methods:**

How will you process and interpret data obtained at SSRL. List program names and methods where applicable. What prior experience do you have with these interpretation methods?

### **Need for Synchrotron Radiation and SSRL:**

Include any lab-source X-ray data that supports justification for synchrotron X-rays. Is there a capability only available at SSRL opposed to other DOE lightsources?

## **References**