NIH grants:

Specific aims (1 page max)

Background: 3 pages (have to sell your idea)
Preliminary data: Variable length
Research design: If applying for an NSRA training grant you must show you will learn something.

Start by writing careful description of preliminary data in order to design your grant

Paragraph 1:
Health problem first (or relevance to health) 1-3 sentences
Link to science problem (3 sentences or so)
Why is it a science problem?

Paragraph 2:
The purpose of this proposal is to
The long-term goal of research is to
Summary of preliminary Data 2-3 sentences
State hypothesis and justify hypothesis; to test this we propose the following aims

Grants tend to be too ambitious-these grants do not get funded.
General rules:

- 1 published paper per aim of grant

- Aims should be related but not depend on each other

- Everything is hypothesis driven-not a fishing expedition

- Hypothesis doesn't need to be right, just testable

- Provide rational and predictions (what you expect to find)

Background and significance

1. Put significance first! It is the best link to your specific aims and makes your paper flow.

2. Only put enough background information to make sense of your specific aims.

3. Raise questions that link to your aims.

4. Make use of headings, this is easier for the reviewer. Make a claim in your headings.

Significance:

Health issue in more detail then specific aims (3 or 4 sentences).

Link what is known to what is unknown...we know it is a mutation in this gene what we don't know is.......state the science problem.

This research is significant because it will...........

*Ethos of the speaker: show why you are capable without bragging.

Preliminary Data: (show mostly progress if you are a PI)

If it is published put it in the background, should only include unpublished data here.

Explain what is NEW (not what is routine)

Research design:

Put tables here if applicable.

Detail your methods (show where the $$ is going)

Paste specific aim 1 EXACTLY the same wording as stated before

Rationale: Overall approach and experimental design

Interpretation of results
        What do you think you are going to get?

Alternative approaches:
        If something is wrong how will you fix it?

Put in a time table for completion