NDG Grant Proposal Rubric

Applications will be evaluated using the following criteria

Scholarly significance and quality: 20 points

- Importance and clarity of the research question
- Strength of the scholarly rationale
- Potential contribution to the field
- Appropriateness of the research design and methods
- Fit between the question, activities, and anticipated outputs

Partnership quality and mutuality: 20 points

- Evidence of joint project development
- Intellectual contributions of all partners
- Clarity and appropriateness of roles
- Shared leadership and decision-making
- Equitable allocation of resources
- Plans for authorship, recognition, data access, and dissemination
- Responsiveness to relevant local or institutional priorities

Feasibility: 15 points

- Realistic scope
- Appropriate timeline
- Reasonable budget
- Relevant expertise
- Access to required sites, data, participants, facilities, or materials
- Identification of risks and mitigation strategies
- Ability to complete the project during the award period

Potential for sustained collaboration: 15 points

- Strength of the plan for continued engagement
- Potential for additional collaborative projects
- Institutional support or alignment
- Likelihood that the partnership will extend beyond the grant period
- Potential to strengthen relationships among participating institutions

Expected research outputs: 10 points

- Specificity of proposed products
- Appropriateness for the discipline and grant level
- Realistic pathway to publication or other dissemination
- Value of outputs to all partners
- Plans for communicating findings to relevant audiences

External funding potential: 10 points

- Identification of plausible external funding opportunities
- Alignment between the seed project and future proposal
- Readiness of the team
- Specific external proposal milestones
- Potential for the grant to increase competitiveness