

Evaluation of the Research Proposal

Student Name: _____ . Date: _____

Score	Category	√	Criteria for Assessment
	SUMMARY AND SPECIFIC AIMS		Does the Summary provide a succinct, but complete description of the proposed work and its significance?
			Does it define the topic of the proposal?
			Does it describe the experimental approach and the expected results?
			Does it relate the proposed work to larger world of biomedical research?
			Is there a hypothesis or well-defined question?
			Is there a logical series of specific aims designed to test the hypothesis?
	BACKGROUND AND SIGNIFICANCE		Did the student present sufficient background information to make the proposed research project understandable to a scientist not in his/her field of study?
			Is the source material appropriately cited?
			Does the written narrative reflect a thoughtful review of relevant information, rather than a collection of random facts?
			Is the material included in the background section germane to the problem at hand?
			Is the importance of the proposed study related to current research needs or gaps in the existing knowledge base?
	PRELIMINARY DATA		Is the rationale for performing the indicated experiments presented?
			Are the experimental methods presented in sufficient depth to allow the reader to assess their appropriateness?
			Were the necessary positive and negative controls performed?
			Are the results presented in a clear and complete manner?
			If required, was the correct statistical analysis performed?
			Is the significance of the results presented?

	EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN AND METHODS		Is the rationale for performing the indicated study clearly presented for each specific aim?
			Are the experimental methods presented in sufficient detail to allow the reviewer to judge the chances of success?
			Were the necessary positive and negative controls performed?
			Are the expected results presented in a clear and complete manner?
			If required, will the correct statistical analysis be performed?
			Is the significance/interpretation of the expected results presented?
			Are pitfalls, solutions to problems, and future directions clearly presented?
	GENERAL FEATURES AND BIBLIOGRAPHY		Is the Bibliography complete?
			Is the Bibliography presented in an appropriate format?
			Is the Bibliography free of typographical errors?
			Is it composed of both primary and secondary (i.e., reviews) references?
			Is completion of the proposed aims feasible in a 2 - 3 year time period?
			Is the proposal free of grammatical and typographical errors?
	OVERALL SCORE		

5 OUTSTANDING: Meets all criteria in a category

4. VERY GOOD: Meets all but one criteria in a category

3. GOOD: Meets all but two criteria in a category.

2. POOR: Fails to meet 3 criteria in a given category

1. UNACCEPTABLE: Fails to meet 4 or more criteria in a category

Overall Score/Passing Score: The overall score must be greater than or equal to 3.00 based on performance in all 5 categories.