

AARC Vision Grant Proposal Scoring Guidelines

Research participants who are invited to submit a full proposal to the AARC should consider the following points when preparing their request. The research review panel will base its decisions on the extent to which each of these considerations are addressed.

- **Significance.** Does the project address an important problem or a critical barrier to progress in the field? If the aims of the project are achieved, how will scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice be improved? How will successful completion of the aims change the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventative interventions that drive this field?
- **Investigators.** Are the PIs, collaborators, and other researchers well suited to the project? Are respiratory therapists involved, either as investigators or collaborators? If early-stage investigators, new investigators, or in the early stages of independent careers, do they have appropriate experience and training? If established, have they demonstrated an ongoing record of accomplishments that have advanced their field(s)? If the project is collaborative or multi-PI, do the investigators have complementary and integrated expertise; are their leadership approach, governance, and organizational structure appropriate for the project?
- **Innovation.** Does the application challenge and seek to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms by utilizing novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions? Are the concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions novel to one field of research or novel in a broad sense? Is a refinement, improvement, or new application of theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions proposed?
- **Methodology.** Are the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses well reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the specific aims of the project? Are potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success presented? If the project involves clinical research, are the plans for 1) protection of human subjects from research risks, and 2) inclusion of minorities, members of both genders, and children justified in terms of the scientific goals and research strategy proposed? Are adequate and appropriate statistical methods identified, and is support of a statistician documented.
- **Environment.** Will the environment in which the work will be done contribute to the probability of success? Are the institutional support, equipment and other physical resources available to the investigators adequate for the project proposed? Will the project benefit from unique features of the environment, subject populations, or collaborative arrangements?

Scoring Checklist

The following checklist will be used by the review panel to score all grant applications and should be used to guide those submitting proposals to assure that all required information is provided.

AARC Research Proposal Scoring Rubric

Research Task Force - Evaluation	Points 0	Points 5	Points 10	Points 15	Points 20	Total Points	Comments
<p>1. Statement and importance of the problem to be solved or task to be accomplished. Contains a brief literature review if appropriate. 10 points</p>							
<p>2. Technical soundness of methodology. Describe the methodology. Present solid, research-based evidence that the methodology being used in the project will solve the problem. 20 points</p>							
<p>3. Plan of operation. Provide detailed information on the implementation steps that will be taken to solve the problem or accomplish the task. These must be consistent with the methodology and the research literature supporting the methodology. 15 points</p>							
<p>4. Evaluation plan. Present a plan for the formative and summative evaluation of the project and reporting this information to the Resource Provider. 10 points</p>							

Research Task Force - Evaluation	Points	Points	Points	Points	Points	Total Points	Comments
	0	5	10	15	20		
5. Quality of key personnel. 15 points							
6. Adequacy of resources. Present an analysis showing that the resources being requested, when combined with those being provided by the Resource Seeker, will be adequate to solve the problem. 5 points							
7. Impact. What impact will successful completion of the project have on the health care system, both now and in the future? 10 points							
8. Organizational capability. Present evidence that your organization has the capabilities to successfully carry out the project. 10 points							
9. Budget and budget notes. 5 points							
TOTAL							

<https://www.niaid.nih.gov/researchfunding/sop/pages/reviewcriteria.aspx>