

Table 1. Cumulative Scoring Rubric	Rubric Categories & Proposal Classification Based on Total Score			
	Poor (Total Score: 0–28)	Fair (Total Score: 29–69)	Good (Total Score: 70–88)	Excellent (Total Score: 89–100)
Relevance of Proposed Project to Competition Goals (30 points)	<p>The Pls identified a problem that is not relevant to NOAA program objectives and priorities.</p> <p>The Pls did not identify a relevant NOAA and/or operational partner and/or a robust collaboration.</p> <p>(if applicable)</p> <p>(Score Range: 0–8)</p>	<p>The identified problem is somewhat relevant to NOAA program objectives and priorities.</p> <p>The Pls identify a NOAA and/or operational partner, but they are not the best match for the project.</p> <p>(if applicable)</p> <p>(Score Range: 9–21)</p>	<p>The Pls identified a clear problem that is relevant to NOAA program objectives and priorities.</p> <p>The Pls identify a relevant NOAA and/or operational partner.</p> <p>(if applicable)</p> <p>(Score Range: 22–26)</p>	<p>The Pls identified a clear problem that is highly relevant to NOAA program objectives and priorities.</p> <p>The Pls indicate a robust collaboration with a relevant NOAA and/or operational partner.</p> <p>(if applicable)</p> <p>(Score Range: 27–30)</p>
Technical or Scientific Merit (30 points)	<p>The Pls did not present an appropriate, technically sound, and/or rigorous methodological approach.</p> <p>(Score Range: 0–8)</p>	<p>The methodological approach presented is not appropriate to sufficiently address the Pl's research topic.</p> <p>(Score Range: 9–21)</p>	<p>The Pls presented an appropriate methodological approach in addressing their research topic, but it lacks sufficient rigor.</p> <p>(Score Range: 22–26)</p>	<p>The Pls presented an appropriate and technically sound methodological approach.</p> <p>(Score Range: 27–30)</p>
Qualifications of Applicants (14 points)	<p>The Pls have no experience conducting air quality research.</p> <p>(Score Range: 0–3)</p>	<p>The Pl's have little experience conducting air quality research.</p> <p>(Score Range: 4–8)</p>	<p>The Pls have sufficient experience conducting air quality research.</p> <p>(Score Range: 9–11)</p>	<p>The Pls have extensive experience conducting air quality research.</p> <p>(Score Range: 12–14)</p>
Project Costs (10 points)	<p>The proposed budget is not reasonable given the project's outputs, outcomes, benefits, and time period.</p> <p>(Score Range: 0–2)</p>	<p>The proposed budget is somewhat reasonable given the project's outputs, benefits, and time period.</p> <p>(Score Range: 3–5)</p>	<p>The proposed budget is reasonable given the project's outputs, outcomes, benefits, and time period.</p> <p>(Score Range: 6–8)</p>	<p>The proposed budget is extremely reasonable given the project's outputs, benefits, and time period.</p> <p>(Score Range: 9–10)</p>
Outreach & Education Sub-Section (8 points)	<p>The Pls did not include education and outreach strategies.</p> <p>(Score Range: 0-1)</p>	<p>The Pls provided vague education and outreach strategies.</p> <p>(Score Range: 2–4)</p>	<p>The Pls provided education and outreach strategies.</p> <p>(Score Range: 5–6)</p>	<p>The Pls clearly state specific and effective education and outreach strategies.</p> <p>(Score Range: 7-8)</p>
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Accessibility (DEIA) Sub-Section (8 points)	<p>The Pls provided a generic DEIA Statement that does not sufficiently describe how their project will further DEIA.</p> <p>(Score Range: 0-1)</p>	<p>The Pls provided a somewhat generic DEIA Statement that slightly describes how their project will further DEIA.</p> <p>(Score Range: 2–4)</p>	<p>The Pls provided a DEIA Statement that describes how the Pls will implement DEIA.</p> <p>(Score Range: 5–6)</p>	<p>A clear DEIA Statement provides specifics on how the Pls will implement and foster DEIA.</p> <p>(Score Range: 7-8)</p>

Table 2. Scoring Worksheet	Poor (Total Score: 0–28)	Fair (Total Score: 29–69)	Good (Total Score: 70–88)	Excellent (Total Score: 89–100)	Score
Relevance of Proposed Project to Competition Goals <i>(30 points)</i>	_____ (Score Range: 0–8)	_____ (Score Range: 9–21)	_____ (Score Range: 22–26)	_____ (Score Range: 27–30)	_____ /30
	Comments/Questions:				
Technical or Scientific Merit <i>(30 points)</i>	_____ (Score Range: 0–8)	_____ (Score Range: 9–21)	_____ (Score Range: 22–26)	_____ (Score Range: 27–30)	_____ /30
	Comments/Questions:				
Qualifications of Applicants <i>(14 points)</i>	_____ (Score Range: 0–3)	_____ (Score Range: 4–7)	_____ (Score Range: 8–11)	_____ (Score Range: 12–14)	_____ /14
	Comments/Questions:				
Project Costs <i>(10 points)</i>	_____ (Score Range: 0–2)	_____ (Score Range: 3–5)	_____ (Score Range: 6–8)	_____ (Score Range: 9–10)	_____ /10
	Comments/Questions:				
Outreach and Education (Sub-Section) <i>(8 points)</i>	_____ (Score Range: 0–1)	_____ (Score Range: 2–4)	_____ (Score Range: 5–6)	_____ (Score Range: 7–8)	_____ /16 <i>(8 pts from Outreach and Education, 8 pts from DEIA)</i>
	Comments/Questions:				
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (Sub-Section) <i>(8 points)</i>	_____ (Score Range: 0–1)	_____ (Score Range: 2–4)	_____ (Score Range: 5–6)	_____ (Score Range: 7–8)	
	Comments/Questions:				

Total Points	____ /100
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