

Guidelines for the Evaluation of Applied Research Grant (ARG) and Applied Research-WiTAG Proposals

Science and Technology Grants

20010-11 Funding Cycle

The purpose of the Applied Research Grant and Applied Research-WiTAG programs is to provide funding *“for projects directly enhancing the economic development of the state” and “to encourage faculty to apply their expertise to problems outside academia ... that improve connections between knowledge and practice that could potentially promote positive changes in the economy in Wisconsin.”*

Primary Evaluation Criteria Checklist

Science and Technology proposals for ARG and ARG-WiTAG funding will be read and evaluated against the following criteria. The overall rating will reflect the evaluator’s assessment of how well the project addresses each of these areas.

1. The project fits the core purpose of the grant program: to apply research and scholarship to the economic development of the state. The economic benefit must be tangible and measurable.
2. The project has potential for significant economic impact within Wisconsin in one or more of these areas:
 - Fostering business expansion and/or improving profitability.
 - Helping to create jobs and/or enhance the work force.
 - Reducing costs and/or increasing efficiency and productivity and/or improving sustainability.
 - Improving the quality of products, services or the working environment.
 - Creating positive change in Wisconsin's cultural/natural environment.
 - Promoting the competitiveness of business.
3. The proposed project demonstrates creativity and/or innovation and, in the case of science and technology applications, appropriately addresses issues of intellectual property (IP), technology transfer, and commercialization with the assistance of WiSys.
 - The project idea is new and compelling
 - Proper procedures in place for protection of IP
 - Industrial or other partnership agreements protect UW interests and have long term benefit
4. The Principal Investigator (PI) employs a solid, appropriate research design with proper, measurable milestones. The project offers opportunity for student training.

5. There is a high likelihood of successful project completion.
 - The project is technically feasible and has realistic objectives.
 - The project is likely to yield meaningful outcomes within the grant period.
 - The project has the active support of private sector or other partners.
 - The project is sustainable or has the potential for extramural funding for further development.

6. The budget is cost-effective and appropriate to the scope of the project.
(The budget limit for Applied Research Grant one-year awards is \$50,000 or, for collaborative proposals, up to \$50,000 per participating institution. The budget limit for Applied Research-WiTAG funding is \$150,000 over a three-year period.)

7. The project includes well-developed milestones and metrics for evaluating its impact at the end of the grant period.