

Guidelines for the Evaluation of  
Applied Research Grant (ARG) Proposals  
Social Science and Humanities Grants  
2010-11 Funding Cycle

The purpose of the Applied Research Grant Program 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

Social science and humanities grant proposals for Applied Research Grant 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:
  - Creating positive change in Wisconsin's cultural/natural environment
  - 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.
  - Promoting the competitiveness of business.
  - Fostering business expansion and/or improving profitability
3. The Principal Investigator (PI) employs a solid, appropriate research design with proper, measurable milestones. The project offers opportunity for student training.
4. There is a high likelihood of successful project completion.
  - The project is 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.
5. 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.)**
6. The project includes well-developed milestones and metrics for evaluating its impact at the end of the grant period.