

Deal or No Deal?

Important questions to consider when deciding whether to pursue a grant

Mission/Goals					
How well do your individual project/research goals or the goals of your team match those of the funding agency? How closely matched are your overall objectives and the mission of the funding agency and/or their current areas of interest, as expressed in this RFP?					
	Excellent	Good	Average	Fair	Poor
Background					
Do you have the necessary background and expertise in this area? Do you have a proven track record in this area, demonstrated by prior programming, pilot experience, and/or previous grants?					
	Excellent	Good	Average	Fair	Poor
Team					
Do you have a team assembled and someone with the necessary expertise and track record who is willing to serve as the Project Director (PD)/Principal Investigator (PI)?					
	Excellent	Good	Average	Fair	Poor
Partners					
Do you have partnerships established with outside organizations that might help you carry out this work?					
	Excellent	Good	Average	Fair	Poor
Resources (ours)					
Do you have commitments of resources that must be contributed to this project, such as required matching funds, space, and/or cost-shared time of personnel?					
	Excellent	Good	Average	Fair	Poor
Resources (funders)					
How much money is available through this grant and for how long? Is it sufficient for carrying out the work you intend?					
	Excellent	Good	Average	Fair	Poor
Return on investment					
What is the potential return on investment in this project? Consider this in terms of real dollars as well as other intangible results, such as building relationships and experience that can be leveraged for future support.					
	Excellent	Good	Average	Fair	Poor
Potential Costs					
What are the potential costs of getting this award, in terms of contributed time, need for additional staffing and other resources, reporting to the funding agency, etc?					
	Excellent	Good	Average	Fair	Poor
Competitiveness					
How many others are likely to compete for this grant? How likely are you to be funded on the first submission? Will there be a chance for resubmission?					
	Excellent	Good	Average	Fair	Poor
Time to respond					
Do you have sufficient time to put together a good proposal, including the pre-award process required by MU Extension and the MU Office of Sponsored Programs, if submitting through the university? Is this a recurring call? Should you begin now to prepare for the next funding cycle?					
	Excellent	Good	Average	Fair	Poor