Criteria	Excellent (4)	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Needs Improvement (1)	Score (1-4)
Clarity of Research/Activity Description	Proposal is exceptionally clear, concise, and well-organized; objectives, methods, and expected outcomes are fully detailed and easy to understand.	Proposal is mostly clear; objectives, methods, and outcomes are adequately described with minor gaps.	Proposal is somewhat unclear; key elements (objectives, methods, outcomes) are missing or vague.	Proposal is unclear or incomplete; difficult to understand scope or purpose.	•
Scholarly Benefits of Research/Activity	Clearly demonstrates significant scholarly value; shows strong potential to advance knowledge, enhance skills, or contribute meaningfully to the field.	Demonstrates scholarly value; potential to advance knowledge or skills is evident but less detailed.	Limited discussion of scholarly benefits; unclear contribution to knowledge or skills.	Scholarly benefits are not demonstrated or not relevant.	
Budget Justification	Budget is well-justified, realistic, and directly supports project goals; all expenses clearly explained.	Budget is mostly appropriate; justification is reasonable with minor gaps.	Budget includes questionable or unclear items; justification is weak.	Budget is unrealistic, missing, or poorly justified.	
Innovation and Creativity	Project demonstrates exceptional originality or creativity; offers a novel approach or unique perspective.	Project shows creativity; includes some innovative elements or approaches.	Project demonstrates limited creativity; ideas are conventional or lack originality.	Project lacks creativity; no evidence of innovation.	
Overall Impression	Exceptional proposal; strongly merits funding; highly compelling and well-prepared.	Strong proposal; merits funding with minor improvements.	Average proposal; may need substantial clarification or revision to merit funding.	Weak proposal; not competitive for funding.	

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