

REVIEW AND SCORING

Each application for funding is reviewed using an objective rubric and scored by a dedicated team of board, staff, and community volunteers. These scores are the starting point of deliberation that evaluates each application individually and across our portfolio of investments to ensure we're upholding United Way's grantmaking values.

Scores from each Committee member will be aggregated and averaged. Scoring will be based on a rubric that includes a section on organizational standing. This section takes into account 990s, audit/reviews, past grant reporting, and certification compliance. For your convenience and early preparation, a sample rubric is provided below.

RUBRIC

Category	Criteria	Exemplary (5 Points)	Proficient (3-4 Points)	Basic (1-2 Points)	Insufficient (0 Points)
Compliance	Organizational Standing	Applicant is in excellent standing with UWSCI, has a recent 990 and audit/review on file; demonstrates a strong record of timely, accurate reporting on prior grants.	Applicant is in good standing with UWSCI, has a recent 990 and audit/review on file; shows accurate and generally timely reporting with minimal delays.	Applicant is in fair standing with UWSCI, may be in the midst of an audit, or have filed an extension for 990. Reporting has been unclear and/or repeatedly delayed.	Applicant is not in good standing with UWSCI, has not completed an audit, doesn't have a 990, frequent reporting delays from previous grants.
Description	Alignment with UWSCI goals	Provides clear, strong rationale for programs alignment with UWSCI's impact areas.	Provides general alignment with UWSCI goals but lacks detailed connection or long-term vision.	Some alignment, but connection to UWSCI's vision is weak or unclear.	Fails to show alignment with UWSCI's vision or impact areas.
Need	Need justification	Uses credible, quantitative, and qualitative data to strongly justify the project's immediate need.	Provides some data and rationale for need but lacks depth or specificity.	Offers limited justification, with weak data or rationale for urgency.	No clear data or rationale for project need.
	UWSCI funding justification	Clearly explains why UWSCI's funding is critical to achieving their expected outcomes.	Indicates that UWSCI's funding is important but does not fully justify its necessity.	Funding importance is minimally explained or weakly justified.	No rationale for UWSCI funding provided.
Beneficiaries	Identification of beneficiaries	Clearly identifies the community or specific groups within the ALICE population that will benefit, supported by detailed demographic information	Identifies beneficiaries within the ALICE population and provides some demographic information, but details are incomplete or not fully specific	Mentions beneficiaries within the ALICE population in general terms, but provides little or no specific detail.	Beneficiaries are not identified or are vague.
	Expected impact on beneficiaries	Provides detailed cognitive, affective, and behavioral impacts beneficiaries will experience.	Describes expected impacts but lacks detail.	Minimal or unclear description of impacts.	No description of expected impact.
	Evaluation Methods	Provides clear evaluation metrics, baseline data, and frequency of evaluations to track success.	Describes evaluation methods but lacks frequency or baseline data.	Provides limited evaluation measures or lacks clear tracking method.	No evaluation methods or metrics provided.
Collaboration	Motivation for Collaborations	Clearly describes 1–2 specific collaborations with goals, partners, and actions taken. Thoughtfully explains why the organization collaborates and how decisions are made.	Describes 1–2 collaborations with some detail about goals or actions.	Mentions collaboration(s) but lacks clarity or specifics.	Minimal or no mention of collaborations.
Execution	Organizational capacity	Clearly demonstrates capacity and expertise to ensure success.	Indicates some capacity and expertise.	Weakly demonstrates capacity or expertise.	No indication of organizational capacity or expertise.