

## Guidelines for Scoring HSR&D Proposals

Reviewers serving on the Scientific Merit Review Board (SMRB) assign each application a single score (to two significant digits, e.g., 2.2) that reflects their assessment of the overall scientific merit and potential to improve health care based on consideration of the review criteria. To calculate an application's overall score, the individual reviewer scores are averaged and then multiplied by 100, producing scores ranging from 100 to 500. Below are the general guidelines currently used by SMRB reviewers.

<b><u>Score</u></b>	<b><u>Scientific Merit</u></b>	<b><u>Descriptor</u></b>
<b>1.0 – 1.5</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>	Exceptionally strong with negligible weaknesses, ready for execution as is.
<b>1.6 - 1.9</b>	<b>Excellent</b>	Strong, but with weaknesses that should be addressed prior to execution. Re-review not necessarily required.
<b>2.0 – 2.3</b>	<b>Very Good</b>	Strong, but with weaknesses that should be addressed in a resubmission.
<b>2.4 - 2.8</b>	<b>Good</b>	Some strengths, but also key weaknesses that require re-working.
<b>2.9 – 3.4</b>	<b>Fair</b>	One or more major weaknesses that require substantial revision before resubmission.
<b>3.5 – 5.0</b>	<b>Poor</b>	Major weaknesses that generally discourage resubmission.