EVALUATION CRITERIA

Funding Program: Research Professional Program

Fiscal Year: 2026-2027

Program Goal: Support the hiring of research professionals in progressive leadership roles within New Brunswick research teams while contributing to advancing knowledge and increasing research impact in a provincial priority sector.

Criteria

The application will be assessed based on the following criteria:

Category	**Assessment Questions**
Relevance & Alignment	To what extent does the proposal align with the funding program? To what extent is the proposal relevant within the priority and/or enabling sector?
Impact & Outcomes	To what extent does the proposal clearly articulate intended outcomes and measures for success? To what extent will the proposal's expected future outcomes demonstrate an impact in NB? To what extent does the proposal articulate how the Research Professional's contribution to the project will offer them a growth-oriented experience that supports their leadership development, including managing students and/or personnel?
Knowledge Mobilization	To what extent does the proposal engage stakeholders and/or research users? To what extent does the proposal outline a plan to mobilize project findings inside and outside of the research setting? To what extent does the proposal outline how the Research Professional will be involved in knowledge mobilization activities with audiences outside of the research setting?

Sustainability	To what extent does the proposal demonstrate that outcomes are likely to be sustained beyond the duration of award? To what extent does the proposal demonstrate consideration of funding sustainability beyond the duration of the award?
Capacity & Feasibility	To what extent will the Research Professional make a substantial contribution to the research program? To what extent is the Research Professional's role clearly defined and appropriate for the proposal? To what extent does the researcher provide evidence of relevant skills, experience, and resources to successfully deliver the project? To what extent does the proposal demonstrate a realistic and achievable delivery plan, considering timelines, budget, resources, and key risks?

Scoring Rubric

1	**Does not satisfy the criterion**
2	**Partially satisfies the criterion**
3	**Satisfies the criterion**
4	**Strongly satisfies the criterion**
5	**Exceeds the criterion**

Review & Scoring Processes

This funding program uses an expert level review. Expert level reviewers are external subject-matter experts and who hold at least a Master's level degree or higher in their respective field.

Criteria will be scored using the above scoring rubric. Each reviewer's scores are averaged across the evaluation criteria. Averaged scores will then be converted to T-scores. The final score for each application is the average T-score across all reviewers, which is then used to rank applications. T-Scores will be ranked in order from highest to lowest.