



Impact Grants Rubric

The rubric will be used by the grant review committee members to evaluate each application. The integrity of the rubric’s rating system will be maintained and paired with qualitative text area response questions asking reviewers for comments, applicant questions, or concerns. Applicants are encouraged to draft their responses to the grant questions to meet the criteria of the rubric.

Environmental Request Rubric

	Question	Weak	Average	Strong
1	Mission: Share your mission and describe how this project or program aligns with your mission.	Unclear description and does not articulate the project aligns with their mission.	Described what the organization does, and vaguely addressed how the project aligns with their mission.	Very clear description of what they do, and specific data on how the project will support their mission.
2	Goals: Describe the goals of your proposal including the issue and/or opportunity addressed, goals and objectives. Describe the potential to contribute environmental benefits to Chaffee County, particularly its potential to address clean water, environmental stewardship, and/or recycling or waste reduction efforts.	Unclear description of the need the project addresses. Goals are not clearly defined. Lack of direct connection to the grant objectives.	Describes goals and vaguely addresses the need. Goals are somewhat aligned with the grant objectives of clean water, environmental stewardship, and recycling or waste reduction efforts.	Clearly describes a compelling need the project addresses, the goals of the program, and the goals are aligned with the grant objectives of clean water, environmental stewardship, and recycling or waste reduction efforts.
3	Proposal: Provide a summary of the plan for the program or project. Include the activities, timeline, inputs required, and expected outputs. Explain why the organization is approaching the issue and/or opportunity in this way.	Project plan lacks detail on the project’s viability and/or innovation. Organization does not demonstrate sufficient capacity to implement the plan.	Project plan appears to be viable and reflects innovation. Organization’s capacity to implement the plan is vaguely described.	Project plan is specific, viable, reflects innovation, and the applicant demonstrates sufficient capacity to implement the plan.
4	Impact: Describe the outcomes your project hopes to achieve. Please include specific, measurable, time-bound changes that will take place due to your program or project.	Vaguely defined impact and connection to environmental benefits is unclear.	Describes impact and outcomes with few specifics. Outcomes are vaguely connected to environmental benefits to the Chaffee County community.	Clearly described their intended impact. Specific, measurable, time-bound outcomes are articulated. Outcomes are connected to clear environmental benefits to the Chaffee County community.

5	<p>How do you determine the impact of what you do? Please describe how you will measure the impact of your activities. Please include your evaluation approach, data from the previous year if applicable and what you hope to achieve in the coming year.</p>	Does not have a defined plan on how to measure the project's impact.	Applicant has some defined methods of measuring the impact of the project.	Applicant describes proven and clearly defined method to measure the impact of the project.
6	<p>Collaboration: Describe the organization's most significant interactions and effort with other organizations, businesses and public entities with respect to this project or program. Describe how this project will be different from and/or complement existing programs.</p>	Organization is unable to describe collaborations or the collaborations do not appear to be meaningful. The project neither fills identified gaps in services or complements existing programs.	Organization has some collaborations but the value and meaning of the collaborations is undefined. The applicant vaguely describes how the project fills gaps in services or complements existing services.	The organization has many valuable and meaningful collaborations to support their mission. The applicant clearly describes how the project fits into the existing services.
7	<p>Challenges: What other resources are needed for this project to be successful? Describe what challenges the project or program will face to achieving its goals.</p>	Unclear, misidentified or lacking challenges and resources. Applicant does not demonstrate the capacity to overcome the challenges.	Description of challenges and resources is lacking in detail. Unclear if the applicant has the capacity to overcome the challenges.	Description of challenges and resources reflect a deep understanding of the project and community. Applicants appear to have capacity to overcome the challenges.
8.	<p>Budget:</p>	Budget does not appear to be sufficient to implement the project or lack information to determine.	The budget matches the project description but lacks details on how funds will be expended to reach the project goals.	The budget matches the project description and outlines a sensible, detailed plan to implement the project with appropriate spending in the right areas.

Environmental Evaluator Questions:

Question	Options	Comments
<p>Environmental Impact: Does the project describe clear potential to contribute to environmental benefits to Chaffee County, particularly its potential to address clean water, environmental stewardship, and recycling or waste reduction efforts?</p>	Yes/No/Unsure	Please describe why or why not, or what additional information you need to make a determination?
<p>Viability: Will the project work? Is the idea financially and operationally sustainable?</p>	Yes/No/Unsure	Please describe why or why not, or what additional



		information you need to make a determination?
Opportunity: Is there sufficient demand/opportunity for what's being offered?	Yes/No/Unsure	Please describe why or why not, or what additional information you need to make a determination?
Innovation: Is the proposal different from what already is being attempted or has been attempted in the past? If not, will the funding create major growth or increased impact?	Yes/No/Unsure	Please describe why or why not, or what additional information you need to make a determination?
Team/Organization Capacity: Does the team composition include knowledge, skills, passion, energy and ability to execute? Does the organization have the capacity and resources to effectively implement the proposal?	Yes/No/Unsure	Please describe why or why not, or what additional information you need to make a determination?
Use of Funds: Is the proposed use of grant funds a sensible path to advance the idea? Is there appropriate spending in the right areas? Is the proposed long term impact in balance with the funding requested?	Yes/No/Unsure	Please describe why or why not, or what additional information you need to make a determination?
Succinctness: Does the applicant offer clear and quality answers to the grant questions?	Yes/No/Unsure	Please describe why or why not, or what additional information you need to make a determination?



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Simple idea. Lasting impact.

PO Box 492 Buena Vista, CO 81211 | (719) 204-5071 | www.chaffeecommunity.org



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