

V. Application Review

The Foundation's Medical and Scientific Committee uses a weighted-value methodology to critique and rank award applications. Committee members evaluate each application using the criteria displayed in the following table, and assign a score for each category (Candidate, Mentor, etc.) using the scale presented below. Two score sheets are used by the committee – one version for Career Development Awards and Fellowships, and a second for Grants. An application's overall score is the sum of the weighted values for all categories. Applicants are encouraged to consider the committee's scoring process when developing their application materials.

A. Score Sheet for Career Development Awards and Fellowships

1 – Outstanding 2 – Excellent 3 – Good 4 – Fair 5 – Poor

Award Application Criteria	(A) Weighted Value X	(B) Reviewer's Score	(C) = Weighted Score
Candidate – <i>Potential to become one who advances the science and practice</i> Potential for independent research career in dermatology* Track record in research (publications, other grants) Adequate training for the project	45%		
Mentor and Environment – <i>Mentor, quality of department or plans, and environment</i> Able to mentor on the project Track record of developing trainees Other resources (e.g., grants for supplies, etc.) Adequate space and resources for project Strong environment for collaboration and mentoring Department with track record of developing trainees Plan for career development Commitment of chair of Department of Dermatology	25%		
Project – <i>Description and significance</i> Relevance to dermatology Quality of written application Likelihood of success Novel, innovative research NIH-fundable work Possibility of future work independent of mentor	30%		

Overall Preliminary Score: _____

**does not apply to Med Derm and Derm Surg CDAs*

V. Application Review (Cont.)

B. Score Sheet for Grants

1 – Outstanding 2 – Excellent 3 – Good 4 – Fair 5 – Poor

Award Application Criteria	(A) Weighted Value X	(B) Reviewer's Score	(C) = Weighted Score
Candidate Potential for independent research career in dermatology Track record in research (publications, other grants) Adequate training for the project	40%		
Environment Adequate space and resources for project Strong environment for collaboration and mentoring Department with track record of developing trainees Plan for career development Commitment of chair of Department of Dermatology	20%		
Project Relevance to dermatology Quality of written application Likelihood of success Novel, innovative research NIH-fundable work Possibility of future work independent of mentor	40%		

Overall Preliminary Score: _____

C. Common Proposal Omissions

The Medical & Scientific Committee reviews many proposals each year. Committee members have found that research award applicants sometimes omit information that is important to their review. As a result, the committee suggests applicants include the following items in their DF award application materials:

- (1) If appropriate, include power calculations in the project description.
- (2) If preliminary data is available, be sure to provide this information in the proposal.
- (3) Letters of support from anyone who will play a significant or collaborative role in the proposed project should also be included in the final package.

Applicants are encouraged to consider these items and to consult with their mentor and/or department chair in developing their final research/project proposal. Additional helpful hints are provided in Section VIII, Frequently Asked Questions.