

GENERAL REVIEW CRITERIA

Significance:

Does this study address an important problem?

If the aims of the application are achieved, how will scientific knowledge be advanced?

What will be the effect of these studies on the concepts or methods that drive this field?

Approach:

Are the conceptual framework, design, methods, and analyses adequately developed, well-integrated, and appropriate to the aims of the project?

Does the applicant acknowledge potential problem areas and consider alternative tactics?

Innovation:

Does the project employ novel concepts, approaches or method?

Are the aims original and innovative?

Does the project challenge existing paradigms or develop new methodologies or technologies?

Investigator:

Is the investigator appropriately trained and well suited to carry out this work?

Is the work proposed appropriate to the experience level of the principal investigator and other researchers (if any)?

Environment:

Does the scientific environment in which the work will be done contribute to the probability of success?

Do the proposed experiments take advantage of unique features of the scientific environment or employ useful collaborative arrangements?

Is there evidence of institutional support?"