

Mind Science Centre (MSC) Research Project Selection Criteria

Category 1 assesses the research design and expertise of the team.

Category 2 assesses the scientific merit and relevance to the community.

Category 3 assesses the proposal's alignment with MSC's short-medium term (1-3 years) goals & priorities.

Category 1: Research Design and Personnel

Item	Suggested Considerations (non-exhaustive)
Idea	Clarity of research question Depth of research question
Design	Experimental methodology Statistical techniques Budget allocation
Expertise	Research team's qualifications and skills Track record in project administration Relevant past projects and publications

Category 2: Research Relevance and Impact to Centre's Goals and Aims

Item	Suggested Considerations (non-exhaustive)
Novelty*	Uniqueness of idea/solution (and not similar to research in international/regional context) Possibility of fulfilling the identified gap
Feasibility	Feasibility of proposed deliverables Feasibility of proposed timeline
Impact	Ability of research outcome to impact existing knowledge Potential of research outcome to address a problem

Category 3: Alignment*

Item	Suggested Considerations (non-exhaustive)
Translational	Potential to translate outcomes to benefit communities Proximity to the end users
Focus	Alignment with MSC mission Alignment with MSC current research focus
Synergy	Synergy between existing projects under MSC Potential for project to enhance MSC's reputation in the selected field

Rating (Scoring) System

Ideally each proposal will be independently scored by each member of the MSC Academic Board. Where some members are unavailable, a minimum of 3 members of the Board is required to provide a valid assessment of the proposal prior to approval.

Should the Chairperson decide the members do not have the technical/scientific expertise to evaluate the academic/scientific merit of a proposal, appropriate subject matter experts will be utilized to provide advice to the Academic Board and/or to independently score the technical content of such proposals.

Proposals must obtain at least **Average** in all categories to be shortlisted for consideration.

The average score will be used to discriminate between multiple proposals i.e. funds will be awarded to proposals with the highest score and drawn down subjected to availability of the pool and MSC Centre Director approval.

Should two or more competing research projects end up with the same final average score, the Chairman of the MSC Academic Board will make the final recommendation to the Centre Director.

Category 1: Research Design and Personnel					
Criterion	Comments	Rating			
		Very good	Good	Average	Poor
Idea		3	2	1	0
Design		3	2	1	0
Expertise		3	2	1	0
Category 1: Score					
Category 2: Research Relevance and Impact to Centre's Goals and Aims					
Criterion	Comments	Rating			
		Very good	Good	Average	Poor
Novelty		3	2	1	0
Feasibility		3	2	1	0
Impact		3	2	1	0
Category 2: Score					
Category 3: Alignment					
Criterion	Comments	Rating			
		Very good	Good	Average	Poor
Translational		3	2	1	0
Focus		3	2	1	0
Synergy		3	2	1	0
Category 3: Score					
Any Criterion with Poor?		Yes / No			
TOTAL SCORE		/27			