

SNSF Starting Grants Call 2024: Evaluation form for panel members and reviewers

1 Introductory remarks

All applications that meet the personal and formal requirements are evaluated scientifically. All panel members as well as all peer-reviewers (only for applications selected for phase 2) are asked the same questions, following the evaluation criteria in section 5.3 of the [Call document for SNSF Starting Grants 2024](#).

2 Evaluation form

Questions on "Scientific quality of the research project"

Q1: Ground-breaking nature and potential impact of the research project

- To what extent does the proposed research address important challenges?
- To what extent are the objectives ambitious and beyond the state of the art (e.g., novel concepts and approaches or development between or across disciplines)?































| | |
|---|--|
| Specific strengths * (4000 characters (max.)) | <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px;"> <div style="font-size: 0.8em; border-bottom: 1px solid #ccc; margin-bottom: 5px;"> B <i>I</i> <u>U</u>           </div> <div style="height: 100px;"></div> </div> |
| Specific weaknesses * (4000 characters (max.)) | <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px;"> <div style="font-size: 0.8em; border-bottom: 1px solid #ccc; margin-bottom: 5px;"> B <i>I</i> <u>U</u>           </div> <div style="height: 100px;"></div> </div> |
| Comments (8000 characters (max.)) | <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px;"> <div style="font-size: 0.8em; border-bottom: 1px solid #ccc; margin-bottom: 5px;"> B <i>I</i> <u>U</u>           </div> <div style="height: 150px;"></div> </div> |

Figure 1: Screenshot of comment fields.

Use 5 (Strong in several relevant aspects. Some clearly identified weaknesses.) as a starting point and develop arguments to justify grading the application as 5, higher, or lower respectively.

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Rating * | |
| <input type="radio"/> | 9 Strong in all relevant aspects. No or negligible weaknesses. |
| <input type="radio"/> | 8 |
| <input type="radio"/> | 7 Strong in most relevant aspects. Few clearly identified weaknesses. |
| <input type="radio"/> | 6 |
| <input type="radio"/> | 5 Strong in several relevant aspects. Some clearly identified weaknesses. |
| <input type="radio"/> | 4 |
| <input type="radio"/> | 3 Some strengths in relevant aspects. Several clearly identified weaknesses. |
| <input type="radio"/> | 2 |
| <input type="radio"/> | 1 Few or no strengths in relevant aspects. Many serious weaknesses. |

Figure 2: Screenshot of SNSF rating scale.

Q2: Scientific approach

- To what extent is the outlined scientific approach feasible bearing in mind the ground-breaking nature and ambition of the proposed research?
- To what extent are the proposed research methodology and working arrangements appropriate to achieve the goals of the project?

- To what extent are the proposed timescales, resources and PI commitment adequate and properly justified?

[Text boxes related to specific strengths and weaknesses as well as for comments (cf. Figure 1) and rating scale (cf. Figure 2)]

Question on "Qualification of the applicant"

Q: Intellectual capacity and creativity of the applicant

- To what extent has the applicant demonstrated the ability to conduct ground-breaking research?
- To what extent does the applicant provide evidence of creative and original thinking?
- To what extent does the applicant have the required scientific expertise and capacity to successfully execute the project?

[Text boxes related to specific strengths and weaknesses as well as for comments (cf. Figure 1) and rating scale (cf. Figure 2)]

Question on "Overall assessment"

Please provide a rating on the following scale for your overall assessment of the proposal, considering the strengths and weaknesses in the criteria-based assessment. Use 5 as the entry point from which to develop your arguments to grade lower or higher.


| Rating * | |
|-----------------------|--|
| <input type="radio"/> | 9 Strong in all relevant aspects. No or negligible weaknesses. |
| <input type="radio"/> | 8 |
| <input type="radio"/> | 7 Strong in most relevant aspects. Few clearly identified weaknesses. |
| <input type="radio"/> | 6 |
| <input type="radio"/> | 5 Strong in several relevant aspects. Some clearly identified weaknesses. |
| <input type="radio"/> | 4 |
| <input type="radio"/> | 3 Some strengths in relevant aspects. Several clearly identified weaknesses. |
| <input type="radio"/> | 2 |
| <input type="radio"/> | 1 Few or no strengths in relevant aspects. Many serious weaknesses. |

Please summarise the main reasons for your overall assessment by listing the **strengths** and **weaknesses** of the proposal.

This statement is the most important part of your recommendation, as it makes the reasoning behind your assessment transparent, it prepares the panel for the decision-making, and it provides the administrative office with the necessary information for the further processing of the proposal. A summary of your statement will be forwarded to the applicant, especially in the case of negative funding decisions.

Main reasons for your overall assessment *

(8000 characters (max.))



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