

## Southern SARE Education Grant Technical Review Rubric

Section	Question in Call for Proposals in Grants Management System	From “How this proposal will be reviewed” in the Call for Proposals	What Reviewers are Looking For	Points
<b>Applicant Qualifications</b>	Detail the area of expertise and specific role of the principal investigator or project leader.	Is the applicant eligible and have the experience, skills, knowledge, and resources to complete the project?	The applicant demonstrates the experience and knowledge to conduct the project and complete the work within the proposed time frame.	5
<b>Statement of Need, Rationale, and Significance</b>	State the outreach/education need of the project, and the rationale and justification for the objectives. Focus on the following questions: What do you intend to “teach” your intended audience? Why is it needed? How will it be implemented? How will success be measured? State the potential economic, environmental, and social impact of the anticipated project outcome.	The project demonstrates a need based on the skills and knowledge gaps that can be fulfilled through a “teachable” project whose success can be effectively measured through evaluation.	The project provides a clear description of a problem facing agriculture in the South, and identifies a need to finding a more sustainable solution through “teachable” methods.	10
<b>Project Relevance to Sustainable Agriculture</b>	State how addressing the need and the expected results contribute to agricultural sustainability. Does the proposed project meet SARE’s goals? Does it address SARE’s three pillars of sustainability: profitability, stewardship, and quality of life?	How does the project and its expected results contribute to sustainable agriculture? Is the project and its expected results a new and creative innovation? Does the project contribute to the growth of sustainable agriculture by building on and/or adding to existing knowledge? Is it a band-aid to conventional agriculture or does it move the needle in more sustainable farming practices?	The project demonstrates a clear, realistic relevancy to sustainable agriculture, and meets SARE goals. One or more of the three pillars of sustainability should be addressed.	15
<b>Objectives</b>	Provide a numbered list of concise project objectives that support your Statement of Need, Rationale, and Significance.	Can the objectives be realistically be completed within the proposed time frame, and project goals are feasible to obtain by the methods stated?	The objectives demonstrate clear goals of the project and can be completed within the proposed time frame.	10
<b>Approaches and Methods</b>	Provide a synopsis of the proposed educational approach to mitigate or solve a problem and encourage farmer adoption of recommended practices or strategies. This approach must be realistic, acceptable to farmers, logical, and capable of leading to the actions and benefits described. The educational approach description must include the	Is the proposed educational approach clear, well designed and thought out so that it solves a problem or encourages farmer adoption of recommended practices or strategies?	The educational approach solves the proposed problem. It should be realistic, logical, and capable of adoption or implementation. Quality educational materials and multiple format	25

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	<p>outreach/education activity, list of curriculum topics, the methods of delivery and support, known challenges to farmer adoption, and a description of how the results will be evaluated.</p> <p>The approach should lead to the development of quality educational materials and multiple format delivery methods with long shelf lives. The educational materials should be useful in future trainings. The applicant must make a defensible attempt to show how many people will be educated and the makeup of the audience to be educated or trained.</p>		<p>delivery methods should be outlined.</p> <p>Approaches and Methods outline what is needed in the budget.</p>	
<b>Budget</b>	<p>The budget is a list of allowable expenses required to conduct your project. The items in your budget should align with the your Approaches and Methods. Fill in a budget and provide a justification for each allowable item listed in your budget. Refer to the budget checklist attached to this Call for Proposal, as well as the sample budget and budget justification as a guideline.</p>	<p>Is the budget request reasonable and realistic? Is it clear on what the funds will be spent on? Are the requested funds allowable? Are budget items itemized with clear justifications on how they will be used in the project?</p>	<p>Clear budget with allowable and realistic requests. Items are itemized and justified with clear descriptions of how they will be used in the project.</p>	10
<b>Outreach Plan</b>	<p>Enter a detailed outreach plan outlining the target audience participating in the project and the target audience for information/education and outreach components of the project. Project results should have applicability for farmers/ranchers and be presented in a way that could be adopted or implemented.</p>	<p>The outreach plan should demonstrate results that have applicability for farmers/ranchers or can be adopted or implemented by the intended audience.</p>	<p>The outreach plan is clear and well thought out and capable of reaching a large number of audiences who could benefit from the project and its results. Outreach demonstrates results are applicable and can be adopted or implemented.</p>	10
<b>Evaluation</b>	<p>The proposal should include a method for evaluating project success. Provide a description of how impacts on the intended audience will be measured.</p> <p>Enter the plan to evaluate project process and outcome. The plan must include mechanisms for self-evaluation and monitoring and/or external evaluation. The evaluation plan must also include mechanisms for project response to evaluation outcomes. Explicitly state the expected outcomes and how you will measure if they have been achieved.</p>	<p>Evaluation methods demonstrate project process, outcome and success of implementation or adoption of skills, knowledge, strategies, or other educational resources.</p>	<p>Evaluation should include methods for measuring project process, outcomes and project success. Methods for measuring project outcomes should be clear, detailed, and specific.</p>	15