

MRFF Scoring Matrix for the Technical Assessment Criteria

This scoring matrix is used as a guide when scoring an application against the technical assessment criteria. While the scoring matrix provides assessors with benchmarks for appropriately scoring each application, it is *not essential that all descriptors relating to a given score are met*. The scoring matrix employs a “best fit” approach. Assessors will refer to this scoring matrix to ensure thorough, equitable and transparent assessment of applications.

Assessment Criterion 1: Project Impact

SCORE						
7	6	5	4	3	2	1
The proposed program: - comprehensively and convincingly addresses the objectives of the grant opportunity and will deliver against the desired outcomes - is informed by an exemplary analysis of existing and ongoing priority setting frameworks and relevant initiatives - demonstrates exceptional Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community-Control and Indigenous Governance of the project - clearly and convincingly articulates that the project will comprehensively support research that is extremely valuable to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities, and contribute to the Priority Reforms of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap - demonstrates broad and meaningful involvement of relevant partners that will support implementation of findings into culturally appropriate activities that are acceptable to the	The proposed program: - strongly addresses the objectives of the grant opportunity and will deliver against the desired outcomes - is informed by a thorough analysis of existing and ongoing priority setting frameworks and relevant initiatives - demonstrates very strong Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community-Control and Indigenous Governance of the project - clearly articulates that the project will comprehensively support research that is highly valuable to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities, and contribute to the Priority Reforms of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap - demonstrates meaningful involvement of relevant partners that will support implementation of findings into culturally appropriate activities that are acceptable to the community - will significantly improve health outcomes for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people	The proposed program: - addresses the objectives of the grant opportunity with a few very minor concerns and will deliver against the desired outcomes - is informed by a good analysis of existing and ongoing priority setting frameworks and relevant initiatives, with a few very minor concerns - demonstrates strong Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community-Control and Indigenous Governance of the project - articulates that the project will comprehensively support research that is valuable to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities, and contribute to the Priority Reforms of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap - demonstrates good involvement of relevant partners that will support implementation of findings into culturally appropriate activities that are acceptable to the community - will improve health outcomes for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people - outcomes in the Measures of	The proposed program: - addresses the objectives of the grant opportunity with minor concerns and is expected to deliver against the desired outcomes - is generally informed by existing and ongoing priority setting frameworks and relevant initiatives, with minor concerns - demonstrates adequate Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community-Control and Indigenous Governance of the project - articulates that the project will support research that is valuable to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people and communities, and contribute to the Priority Reforms of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap - demonstrates sufficient involvement of relevant partners that are expected to support implementation of findings into culturally appropriate activities that are acceptable to the community - is expected to improve health outcomes for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people - outcomes in the Measures of	The proposed program: - does not convincingly address the objectives of the grant opportunity or is unclear in its approach to doing so - is informed by a limited analysis of existing and ongoing priority setting frameworks and relevant initiatives, with significant or major concerns - does not clearly demonstrate Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community-Control and Indigenous Governance of the project - does not convincingly articulate that the project will support research that is of value to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities, and contribute to the Priority Reforms of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap - demonstrates narrow or otherwise limited involvement of relevant partners that may support implementation of findings into culturally appropriate activities that are acceptable to the	The proposed program: - does not address the objectives of the grant opportunity or is unclear in its approach to doing so - is not well-informed by existing and ongoing priority setting frameworks and relevant initiatives, and raises several major concerns - does not demonstrate Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community-Control and Indigenous Governance of the project - barely articulates that the project will support research that is of value to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities, and contribute to the Priority Reforms of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap - demonstrates minimal involvement of relevant partners, which are unlikely to support implementation of findings into culturally appropriate activities that are acceptable to the community - is unlikely to improve	The proposed program: - does not address the objectives of the grant opportunity - is not informed by existing and ongoing priority setting frameworks and relevant initiatives - does not demonstrate Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community-Control and Indigenous Governance in any aspect of the of the project - does not articulate that the project will support research that is of value to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities, and contribute to the Priority Reforms of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap - does not demonstrate meaningful involvement of relevant partners - will not improve health outcomes for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people - outcomes in the

community • will rapidly and significantly improve health outcomes for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people • outcomes in the Measures of Success statement are highly relevant and meaningful to the goal and aims of the Indigenous Health Research Fund	• outcomes in the Measures of Success statement are very relevant and meaningful to the goal and aims of the Indigenous Health Research Fund	Success statement are suitably relevant and meaningful to the goal and aims of the Indigenous Health Research Fund	Success statement are sufficiently relevant and meaningful to the goal and aims of the Indigenous Health Research Fund	community • may improve health outcomes for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people • some outcomes in the Measures of Success statement may contribute to the goal and aims of the Indigenous Health Research Fund	health outcomes for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people • outcomes in the Measures of Success statement are unlikely to contribute to the goal and aims of the Indigenous Health Research Fund	Measures of Success statement will not contribute to the goal and aims of the Indigenous Health Research Fund
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Assessment Criterion 2: Project methodology

SCORE						
7	6	5	4	3	2	1
The proposed project: • has a near-flawless project plan • is comparable with the highest quality projects in the sector • is highly feasible with the required expertise, supports and processes established • demonstrates comprehensive Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community-Control throughout the life of the program • includes highly effective milestones and performance indicators • arrangements for Indigenous Governance and oversight of the program are well articulated and will ensure its successful delivery	The proposed project: • has a very strong, well-defined, coherent and appropriate project plan • is comparable with very high quality projects in the sector • is feasible with the required expertise, supports and processes established • demonstrates strong Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community-Control throughout the life of the program • includes effective milestones and performance indicators • arrangements for Indigenous Governance and oversight of the program are well articulated and will support its successful delivery	The proposed project: • has a strong project plan that is appropriate, with only a few very minor concerns • is comparable with good quality projects in the sector • is feasible with the required expertise, supports and processes established or nearly established • demonstrates effective Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community-Control throughout the life of the program • includes appropriate milestones and performance indicators that raise a few very minor concerns • arrangements for Indigenous Governance and oversight of the program are generally well articulated and will support its successful delivery	The proposed project: • has a solid project plan that is appropriate, with minor concerns • is comparable with the general standard of projects in the sector • is generally feasible with the required expertise, supports and processes established or being established • demonstrates adequate Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community-Control throughout the life of the program • includes adequate milestones and performance indicators that raise minor concerns • arrangements for Indigenous Governance and oversight of the program are sufficient to support its successful delivery	The proposed project: • has a somewhat unclear project plan that is not appropriate, or contains some major flaws • is somewhat below the general standard of projects in the sector • raises concerns about feasibility in a number of areas • demonstrates limited Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community-Control throughout the life of the program • raises major concerns about the appropriateness of milestones and performance indicators • raises concerns about arrangements for Indigenous Governance and oversight of the program	The proposed project: • has an unclear project plan that is not appropriate, and contains several major flaws • is substantially below the general standard of projects in the sector • raises several major concerns about feasibility and the likelihood of successful completion • demonstrates little to no Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community-Control throughout the life of the program • lacks appropriate milestones and performance indicators • raises significant concerns about arrangements for Indigenous Governance and oversight of the program	The proposed project: • has a flawed and poorly developed project plan that is not appropriate and is unlikely to be successful • is well below the general standard of projects in the sector • does not seem feasible and is unlikely to be successfully completed • does not demonstrate Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community-Control throughout the life of the program • lacks milestones and performance indicators • does not demonstrate arrangements for governance and oversight of the program

Assessment Criterion 3: Capacity, capability and resources to deliver the project

SCORE						
7	6	5	4	3	2	1
- The proposal clearly and convincingly demonstrates that there will be comprehensive Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community-Control embedded in all aspects of the project - The proposal demonstrates near-flawless plans and processes to identify and engage with expertise needed for the project's activities The project team: - is fully led by Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander individuals - has delivered projects that have an outstandingly positive impact on Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander health outcomes - has expertise and experience that is highly relevant to all aspects of the proposed project - has, within the assessable period (considering career disruption), demonstrated outstanding impact through the translation and implementation of research findings - includes an appropriate mix of career stages with outstanding outputs in their fields and substantial potential for capacity building - has an outstanding track record in working with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people, communities, and	- The proposal clearly demonstrates that there will be broad Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community-Control embedded in all aspects of the project - The proposal demonstrates very strong and comprehensive plans and processes to identify and engage with expertise needed for the project's activities The project team: - is almost fully Indigenous-led, with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander individuals holding almost all roles - has delivered projects that have a substantially positive impact on Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander health outcomes - has expertise and experience that is very relevant to the proposed project - has, within the assessable period (considering career disruption), demonstrated excellent impact through the translation and implementation of research findings - includes an appropriate mix of career stages with excellent outputs in their fields and strong potential for capacity building - has an excellent track record in working with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people, communities, and organisations	- The proposal demonstrates that the project has substantive Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community-Control embedded in the project - The proposal demonstrates strong and comprehensive plans and processes to identify and engage with expertise needed for the project's activities The project team: - is predominantly Indigenous-led, with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander individuals holding the vast majority of roles - has delivered projects that have a clearly positive impact on Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander health outcomes - has expertise and experience that is appropriate to undertake the proposed project with a few very minor concerns - has, within the assessable period (considering career disruption), demonstrated substantial impact through the translation and implementation of research findings - includes an appropriate mix of career stages with good outputs in their fields and good potential for capacity building - has a very good track record in working with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	- The proposal demonstrates that the project has adequate Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community-Control in the project - The proposal demonstrates solid plans and processes to identify and engage with expertise needed for the project's activities The project team: - is substantially Indigenous-led, with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander individuals holding the majority (50%+) of roles - has delivered projects that have a recognised positive impact on Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander health outcomes - has expertise and experience that is sufficient to undertake the proposed project with minor concerns - has, within the assessable period (considering career disruption), demonstrated impact through the translation and implementation of research findings - includes a mix of career stages with adequate outputs in their fields and sufficient potential for capacity building - has a good track record in working with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people,	- The proposal does not clearly demonstrate that the project has Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community-Control embedded in the project - The proposal has somewhat unclear plans and processes to identify and engage with expertise needed for the project's activities The project team: - is somewhat Indigenous-led, with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander individuals holding some roles - has delivered projects that have a limited positive impact on Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander health outcomes - has limited expertise and experience to undertake the proposed project - has, within the assessable period (considering career disruption), demonstrated limited impact through the translation and implementation of research findings - does not include an appropriate mix of career stages and has limited potential for capacity building - has a limited track record in working with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people,	- The proposal demonstrates that the project team has little to no Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community-Control embedded in the project - The proposal has an unclear or poorly developed plans and processes to identify and engage with expertise needed for the project's activities The project team: - has limited Indigenous leadership, with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander individuals holding few roles - has delivered projects that have minimal positive impact on Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander health outcomes - has limited expertise and experience to undertake the proposed project - has, within the assessable period (considering career disruption), demonstrated little to no impact through the translation and implementation of research findings - does not include an appropriate mix of career stages and has minimal potential for capacity building - has little to no track record in working with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait	- The proposal does not demonstrate that the project has Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community-Control embedded in the project - The proposal has no plan or processes to identify and engage with expertise needed for the project's activities The project team: - has no Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander individuals involved in the team - has not delivered projects with positive impact on Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander health outcomes - has no expertise and experience to undertake the proposed project - has not demonstrated evidence of impact through the translation and implementation of research findings within the assessable period (considering career disruption) - does not include a mix of career stages and does not demonstrate potential for capacity building - does not have a track record in working with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people, communities, and

organisations • has clearly demonstrated the strong commitment of partners to the project and how any contributions will support its successful delivery	• has effectively demonstrated the commitment of partners to the project and how any contributions will support its successful delivery	people, communities, and organisations • has provided good evidence of the commitment of partners to the project and how any contributions will support its successful delivery	communities, and organisations • has provided sufficient evidence of the commitment of partners to the project and how any contributions will support its successful delivery	communities, and organisations • raises concerns about the commitment of partners to the project or how any contributions will support its successful delivery	Islander people, communities, and organisations • raises significant concerns about the commitment of partners to the project and how any contributions will support its successful delivery	organisations • has not demonstrated the commitment of partners to the project or how any contributions will support its successful delivery
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