

2026 SJDAWC Grants Program Evaluation Scoresheets

Research and Integrated Grants

	Points Breakdown	Points
Relevance to Animal Welfare		
Relevance to animal welfare	Strong (14-20 pt) = outcomes are directly relevant Moderate (7-13 pt) = outcomes are somewhat relevant Insufficient (0-6 pt) = outcomes have little to no relevance	/20
Potential impact on animal welfare	Strong (14-20 pt) = likely to lead to significant advancement Moderate (7-13 pt) = some impact or advancement Insufficient (0-6 pt) = minimal impact	/20
Importance of animal welfare problem	Strong (7-10 pt) = topic is timely, severe and important Moderate (3-6 pt) = topic is somewhat important Insufficient (0-2 pt) = importance is unclear or minimal	/10
Merit of the Proposal		
Justification for the research	Strong (7-10 pt) = clearly justified from previous work Moderate (3-6 pt) = somewhat justified Insufficient (0-2 pt) = justification is unclear or minimal	/10
Objectives and hypotheses	Strong (7-10 pt) = clearly described and attainable Moderate (3-6 pt) = somewhat unclear or attainable Insufficient (0-2 pt) = unclear or unattainable	/10
Experimental design and methodology	Strong (7-10 pt) = clearly described and appropriate Moderate (3-6 pt) = described but some deficiencies Insufficient (0-2 pt) = unclear or inappropriate	/10
Plans for dissemination ¹	Strong (7-10 pt) = 1 peer-reviewed publication and other Moderate (3-6 pt) = 1 peer-reviewed publication Insufficient (0-2 pt) = no peer-reviewed publications	/10
Budget	Strong (7-10 pt) = clearly described and appropriate Moderate (3-6 pt) = described but some deficiencies Insufficient (0-2 pt) = unclear or inappropriate	/10
Total Score		/100
For Integrated Projects: Does the project include clear reasoning for integrating the service and research components? (Yes or No)		
Is the project fundable? Reasons for not being fundable can include low to no relevance to animal welfare, poor scientific merit, and/or low overall score (e.g., 50 points or less) (Yes or No)		

¹Research and Integrated projects must include at least 1 peer-reviewed publication, in addition to other forms of dissemination such as presenting at conferences, or educational materials for students, the public, or the veterinary community.

Service Grants

	Points Breakdown	Points
Relevance to Animal Welfare		
Relevance to animal welfare	Strong (14-20 pt) = outcomes are directly relevant Moderate (7-13 pt) = outcomes are somewhat relevant Insufficient (0-6 pt) = outcomes have little to no relevance	/20
Potential impact on animal welfare	Strong (14-20 pt) = likely to lead to significant advancement Moderate (7-13 pt) = some impact or advancement Insufficient (0-6 pt) = minimal impact	/20
Importance of animal welfare problem	Strong (7-10 pt) = topic is timely, severe and important Moderate (3-6 pt) = topic is somewhat important Insufficient (0-2 pt) = importance is unclear or minimal	/10
Merit of the Proposal		
Justification for the project	Strong (7-10 pt) = clearly justified from previous work Moderate (3-6 pt) = somewhat justified Insufficient (0-2 pt) = justification is unclear or minimal	/10
Objectives and hypotheses	Strong (7-10 pt) = clearly described and attainable Moderate (3-6 pt) = somewhat unclear or attainable Insufficient (0-2 pt) = unclear or unattainable	/10
Plans for community engagement	Strong (7-10 pt) = clearly described and appropriate Moderate (3-6 pt) = described but some deficiencies Insufficient (0-2 pt) = unclear or inappropriate	/10
Plans for dissemination ¹	Strong (7-10 pt) = 1 peer-reviewed publication and other Moderate (3-6 pt) = 1 peer-reviewed publication Insufficient (0-2 pt) = no peer-reviewed publications	/10
Budget	Strong (7-10 pt) = clearly described and appropriate Moderate (3-6 pt) = described but some deficiencies Insufficient (0-2 pt) = unclear or inappropriate	/10
Total Score		/100
Is the project fundable? Reasons for not being fundable can include low to no relevance to animal welfare, poor merit, and/or low overall score (e.g., 50 points or less) (Yes or No)		

¹Service projects do not require peer-reviewed publications but must include at least 1 form of dissemination such as presenting at conferences, or educational materials for students, the public, or the veterinary community.