CFI John R Evans Leaders Fund

Assessment Criteria – Benefits to Canadians
CFI Requirements – Benefits to Canadians

“The research or technology development program has the potential to lead to tangible benefits for society, health, the economy and/or the environment. There are measures in place to transfer the research results and outputs of the technology development to potential end users in a timely manner.”

1. Beyond the creation of new knowledge and the training of highly qualified personnel, describe the expected benefits to Canadians and why they are significant.

2. Identify potential end users of the research or technology development results and describe the plans for knowledge mobilization and/or technology transfer.

* Ref: John R. Evans Leaders Fund Guidelines – March 2017 version
Feedback from Reviewer Comments
(for UofA JELF Applications submitted Oct 2013 to June 2016)

- A common concern raised by reviewers is that the Benefits to Canadians were unclear
  - At least one reviewer raised concerns about the Benefits to Canadians for 38% of the proposals submitted
  - Among rejected/partially funded proposals, multiple reviewers raised concerns about the Benefits to Canadians for 50% of the proposals submitted
### CFI Reviewer Comments
(JELF submissions Oct. 2013 to June 2016)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>At Least One Reviewer Comment</th>
<th>Majority of Reviewers Comment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research or Technology Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research plan not sufficiently detailed</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research plan not feasible</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research is not innovative</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Applicants lack expertise</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equipment item justification</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>HQP Training Plan</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benefits to Canadians</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Institutional Commitments</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operations and Maintenance Plan</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>10%</td>
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**All Submitted Proposals (n=60)**

- **Research or Technology Development**
  - At Least One Reviewer Comment: 40%
  - Majority of Reviewers Comment: 20%
- **Researchers**
  - At Least One Reviewer Comment: 20%
  - Majority of Reviewers Comment: 10%
- **Need for Infrastructure**
  - At Least One Reviewer Comment: 20%
  - Majority of Reviewers Comment: 10%
- **Training of HQP**
  - At Least One Reviewer Comment: 20%
  - Majority of Reviewers Comment: 10%
- **Benefits to Canadians**
  - At Least One Reviewer Comment: 20%
  - Majority of Reviewers Comment: 10%
- **Sustainability**
  - At Least One Reviewer Comment: 20%
  - Majority of Reviewers Comment: 10%

**Note:**
- 14/60 proposals assessed by third expert reviewer (23.3%)
- 4/60 assessed by multidisciplinary JELF-Advisory Committee (6.7%)

*For Unaffiliated JELF Stream, CFI request $400,000 or less*
CFI Reviewer Concerns
(JELF submissions Oct. 2013 to June 2016)

Rejected/Partially Funded Applications (n=12)

- Research plan not sufficiently detailed
- Research plan not feasible
- Research is not innovative
- Applicants lack expertise
- Equipment item justification
- HQP Training Plan
- Benefits to Canadians
- Institutional Commitments
- Operations and Maintenance Plan

Note:
6/12 proposals assessed by third expert reviewer (50%)
2/12 assessed by multidisciplinary JELF-Advisory Committee (16.7%)

*For Unaffiliated JELF Stream, CFI request $400,000 or less

At Least One Reviewer Comment
Majority of Reviewers Comment

Percentages:
- Research plan not sufficiently detailed: 91.7%
- Research plan not feasible: 25%
- Research is not innovative: 25%
- Applicants lack expertise: 25%
- Equipment item justification: 50%
- HQP Training Plan: 41.7%
- Benefits to Canadians: 41.7%
- Institutional Commitments: 25%
- Operations and Maintenance Plan: 50%
Tips for Success

- Benefits to Canadians should be specific
  - For basic scientific research: describe anticipated benefits
    - e.g. new treatments if the research is successful
    - How might results be exploited if project is successful?
  - For applied/translational research: a detailed knowledge mobilization/technology transfer plan is critical
Suggested Structure for this Section

• 1. How will Canada benefit from the applicant’s research?
   – Importance of the research topic (e.g. impact of a relevant disease/disorder on Canadians)
   – For applied research: Economic benefits of the research area to Canada
   – Quality of life benefits?
   – Social benefits?
   – Health benefits?
   – Environmental benefits?

• 2. Identify potential end users and outline plans for knowledge mobilization/technology transfer