

	<b>Below Expectations</b>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	<b>Exceeds Expectations Meets plus:</b>
<b>Introduction</b>	<p>Background information is irrelevant or incomplete</p> <p>No clear gap in knowledge described, or the proposed study doesn't address it</p>	<p>Clear background on previous work in the system</p> <p>Justification of why this system is appropriate to address this question</p> <p>Background on the theory of the interaction/the genetics</p> <p>Clearly described gap in knowledge that the study will address</p>	<p>Background information ties the theoretical background with previous work in this system or another</p> <p>Includes the gap in knowledge, and why the answer to that gap is important</p>
<b>Central question and aims</b>	<p>The central question is unclear or vague</p> <p>The aims are not relevant to the motivating question</p>	<p>The central question is clearly stated</p> <p>The specific aims are achievable, concrete questions that can be answered experimentally</p>	<p>The central question is framed in the context of the gap in knowledge</p> <p>The link between each aim and the central question is clear and explicit</p>
<b>Experimental Design</b>	<p>Experiments are unfeasible, or won't answer the intended question</p> <p>No discussion of what the results will mean</p>	<p>Clear description of experimental plans that are appropriate to answer the aims</p> <p>Discussion of how the data will be analyzed and interpreted</p>	<p>Sophisticated experimental design</p> <p>Discussion of what the results will mean in the context of the aims and central question</p>
<b>Intellectual Merit and Broader Impacts (optional)</b>	<p>No broader view of the impact of the work is included</p> <p>Disconnected from the rest of the proposal</p>	<p>Discussion of how this proposal addresses a relevant gap in knowledge</p> <p>(Broader Impacts: Description of how this work will have an impact outside the field)</p>	<p>Explanation of why the gap in knowledge is important</p> <p>Discussion of why this study and this system are particularly good to answer this question</p> <p>(Broader Impacts: Makes a strong case for the relevance and importance of this work)</p>
<b>Writing and organization</b>	<p>Disorganized</p> <p>Numerous errors</p> <p>Incomplete or incorrectly formatted citations</p>	<p>Well organized and easy to follow</p> <p>Thoroughly proofread</p> <p>Citations are complete and correctly formatted</p>	