

## NHMRC 2017 Development Grants Category Descriptors

	<i>Scientific Assessors ONLY</i>	<i>Commercialisation Assessors ONLY</i>	
<i>Category</i>	<i>Scientific Merit of the Proposal: (Fitness for purpose of the science and quality of the scientific research team) 40%</i>	<i>Record of Commercial Achievements (relative to opportunity) 20%</i>	<i>Commercial Potential 40%</i>
<b>7 Outstanding by International Standards</b>	<p><b>The research plan:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is well-defined, highly coherent and strongly developed</li> <li>• will successfully achieve proof-of-concept</li> <li>• is a near flawless design</li> <li>• is without question highly feasible and thus almost certain to be successfully completed</li> <li>• is consistent with the objectives of the Development Grants scheme.</li> </ul> <p><b>The scientific research team:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• has, overall, an outstanding record of research achievements in the field of the proposed research</li> <li>• brings together all of the expertise needed for success.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Relative to opportunity, the applicant team:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• has proven successful national and international involvement in commercialisation of research including for example, granted patents, industry consultation, licensing of IP, has had direct involvement in industry placements and/or involvement with establishing spin off companies</li> <li>• has a record of commercial achievements which is outstanding by international standards</li> <li>• is highly likely to achieve a very significant commercial outcome.</li> </ul>	<p><b>The commercial proposal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is linked to a human health issue where the size and/or impact for the potential market is extremely large</li> <li>• provides a clear description of a highly feasible commercial/development pathway should the product, process or technology prove successful</li> <li>• will be conducted in an environment with excellent institutional commercial advice and development support structures such as a commercialisation office or equivalent, which will increase the likelihood of arriving at a commercial outcome within a foreseeable timeframe</li> <li>• clearly outlines how the proposed research meets the scheme objectives.</li> </ul> <p><b>The product, process or technology:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is unique or provides an internationally competitive edge</li> <li>• is linked to a very strong IP position.</li> </ul> <p><b>Funding the project:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• would significantly increase the probability of successful commercialisation, usually by adding substantial value to the concept and/or supporting a critical proof of concept and/or creation of a commercialisable prototype that will enrich the Australian life sciences industry sector and bring economic benefit to Australia.</li> </ul>
<b>6 Excellent</b>	<p><b>The research plan:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is clearly defined, coherent and well developed</li> <li>• is very well designed</li> <li>• is feasible and highly likely to be successfully completed</li> <li>• will successfully achieve proof-of-concept</li> <li>• is consistent with the objectives of the Development Grants scheme.</li> </ul> <p><b>The scientific research team:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the scientific team leader has an excellent record of research achievements, as do, on average, the other team members in the field of the proposed research</li> <li>• brings together all of the expertise needed for success.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Relative to opportunity, the research team:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• has significant experience in national and international commercialisation of research including approved patents, industry consultation, licensing of IP, and has had direct involvement with industry</li> <li>• has a record of commercial achievements which is of a high international standard</li> <li>• is very likely to achieve a significant commercial outcome.</li> </ul>	<p><b>The commercial proposal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is linked to a human health issue where the size and/or impact for the potential market is very large</li> <li>• provides a clear description of a feasible commercial/development pathway should the product, process or technology prove to be successful</li> <li>• will be conducted in an environment with strong institutional commercial advice and development support structures, including an institutional commercialisation office or equivalent which will support the likelihood of arriving at a commercial outcome within a foreseeable timeframe</li> <li>• clearly outlines how the proposed research meets all the scheme objectives.</li> </ul> <p><b>The product, process or technology:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is internationally competitive and likely to be attractive to a commercial partner</li> <li>• could be linked to a strong IP position.</li> </ul> <p><b>Funding the project:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• would increase the probability of successful commercialisation, usually by adding substantial value to the concept and/or supporting a critical proof of concept and/or creation of a commercialisable prototype that will bring economic benefit to Australia.</li> </ul>

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<b>5 Very Good</b>	<p><b>The research plan:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>is generally clear in its scientific plan and is logical</li> <li>raises only a few minor concerns with respect to the study design</li> <li>will likely be successfully completed and achieve proof-of-concept</li> <li>is consistent with the objectives of the Development Grants scheme.</li> </ul> <p><b>The scientific research team:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>members on average, have good record of research achievements in the field of the proposed research</li> <li>possesses most of the expertise needed for success.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Relative to opportunity, the research team:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>has been involved in national commercialisation of research including approved patents, industry consultation, licensing of intellectual property, and has had involvement in industry</li> <li>has a record of commercial achievements which is of a high or growing national standard</li> <li>has the ability to promote a strong commercial outcome.</li> </ul>	<p><b>The commercial proposal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>is linked to a human health issue where the size and/or impact for the potential market is large</li> <li>provides an outline of a feasible commercial development pathway should the product, process or technology prove to be successful</li> <li>will be conducted in an environment with good access to institutional commercial development advice and support structures which will mostly likely support the likelihood of arriving at a commercial outcome within a foreseeable timeframe</li> <li>adequately outlines how the proposed research meets the scheme objectives.</li> </ul> <p><b>The product, process or technology:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>has significant commercial potential nationally and potentially, internationally</li> <li>could be linked to a strong or strongly developing IP position.</li> </ul> <p><b>Funding the project:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>would most likely bring economic benefit to Australia.</li> </ul>
<b>4 Good</b>	<p><b>The research plan:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>is good in terms of its objectives</li> <li>contains several areas of weakness in the experimental design and feasibility</li> <li>raises several concerns about successful completion</li> <li>may successfully achieve proof-of-concept</li> <li>is consistent with the objectives of the Development Grants scheme.</li> </ul> <p><b>The scientific research team:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>members on average, have good record of research achievements in the field of the proposed research</li> <li>possesses much of the expertise needed for success.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Relative to opportunity, the research team:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>has a solid record of national research commercialisation achievement including approved patents, industry consultation and licensing of IP</li> <li>has a record of commercial achievements which is of a good national standard</li> <li>has some potential to promote a viable commercial outcome.</li> </ul>	<p><b>The commercial proposal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>is linked to a human health issue where the size and/or impact for the potential market is moderate.</li> <li>provides an outline of a commercialisation pathway which could be better developed and raised only a few minor concerns.</li> <li>will be conducted in an environment with access to commercial development advice and support structures , which could support the likelihood of arriving at a commercial outcome within a foreseeable timeframe</li> <li>outlines how the proposed research meets the scheme objectives.</li> </ul> <p><b>The product, process or technology:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>has some commercial potential nationally, but is very limited at an international level.</li> <li>could be linked to a developing IP position.</li> </ul> <p><b>Funding the project:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>may bring economic benefit to Australia.</li> </ul>

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<b>3 Marginal</b>	<p><b>The research plan:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>is clearly described, but may not be successful</li> <li>contains several study design problems or flaws that will limit the successful completion of the study</li> <li>will not significantly advance current knowledge in the field</li> <li>is not likely to achieve proof-of-concept</li> <li>may not be consistent with the objectives of the Development Grants scheme.</li> </ul> <p><b>The scientific research team:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>has no expertise in most areas required for project success.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Relative to opportunity, the research team:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>has limited record of research commercialisation achievements including approved patents, industry consultation, licensing of IP</li> <li>does not have any significant record of commercial achievements</li> <li>has a limited ability to promote a viable commercial outcome.</li> </ul>	<p><b>The commercial proposal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>is linked to a human health issue where the size and/or impact for the potential market is limited</li> <li>provides a description of a pathway to commercialisation that raises several concerns</li> <li>will be conducted in an environment with limited access to institutional commercial development advice and support structures, which is unlikely to support the likelihood of arriving at a commercial outcome within a foreseeable timeframe.</li> <li>may not meet the scheme objectives.</li> </ul> <p><b>The product, process or technology:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>has limited commercial potential</li> <li>could be linked to a weak IP position.</li> </ul> <p><b>Funding the project:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>will not bring economic benefit to Australia.</li> </ul>
<b>2 Unsatisfactory</b>	<p><b>The research plan:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>has poorly described or under-developed objectives</li> <li>contains multiple major study design problems or flaws that will limit or prohibit the successful completion of the study</li> <li>is not likely to advance current knowledge in the field</li> <li>will not likely achieve proof of concept</li> <li>may not be consistent with the objectives of the Development Grants scheme.</li> </ul> <p><b>The scientific research team:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>has no expertise in most areas required for project success.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Relative to opportunity, the research team:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>has little record of research commercialisation achievements including approved patents, industry consultation, licensing of IP</li> <li>does not have any significant record of commercial achievements</li> <li>has a very little potential to promote a viable commercial outcome.</li> </ul>	<p><b>The commercial proposal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>is linked to a human health issue where the size and/or impact for the potential market is small</li> <li>does not contain a clear description of a pathway to commercialisation</li> <li>will not be conducted in an environment supportive of commercial development</li> <li>may not meet the scheme objectives.</li> </ul> <p><b>The product, process or technology:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>has no commercial potential</li> <li>could be linked to a very weak IP position.</li> </ul> <p><b>Funding the project:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>will not bring economic benefit to Australia.</li> </ul>

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<b>1 Poor</b>	<p><b>The research plan:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• has poorly described or under developed objectives</li> <li>• contains multiple major study design problems or flaws that will limit or prohibit the successful completion of the study</li> <li>• will not advance current knowledge in the field</li> <li>• will not achieve proof of concept</li> <li>• may not be consistent with the objectives of the Development Grants scheme.</li> </ul> <p><b>The scientific research team:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• has no expertise in most areas required for project success.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Relative to opportunity, the research team:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• has no record of research commercialisation achievements including approved patents, industry consultation, licensing of IP</li> <li>• does not have any significant record of commercial achievements</li> <li>• has no ability to promote a viable commercial outcome.</li> </ul>	<p><b>The commercial proposal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is linked to a human health issue where the size and/or impact for the potential market is too small for probable commercial viability</li> <li>• does not contain a clear description of a pathway to commercialisation</li> <li>• will not be conducted in an environment supportive of commercial development</li> <li>• does not meet the scheme objectives.</li> </ul> <p><b>The product, process or technology:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• has no commercial potential</li> <li>• has a non-viable IP position.</li> </ul> <p><b>Funding the project:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• would not increase the interest of commercial partners</li> <li>• will not bring economic benefit to Australia.</li> </ul>