

Northern Border Regional Commission - Overall Criteria (total 50 points)				
Potential # of points	5	3	1	Score between 5 and 0
How great is the project's impact on meeting the priorities and/or strategies of a regional or state development plan? Question # 24 and 25	Clearly explains connection, listed within a CEDS or other regional document aligns with regional strategies	secondary or tertiary connection is articulated, can draw connection to strategies outlined	distant connection or vague relations to strategies	Score between 5 and 0
Level of demonstrated positive impact the project may have on the following: per capita income, poverty, unemployment and outmigration in the region. Questions # 21	uses studies or other research that provides evidence of the projects impacts on 2 or more of these metrics	Draws reasonable connection of the likelihood of the project's impact on at least one or more of these metrics.	draws vague connections between any of the metrics	Score between 5 and 0
Extent to which match funding needed to complete the project is realistic and available within a year of being awarded. Question # 23 and 35.	Match funding is committed to the project at time of application	Match funding has been clearly outlined and has been demonstrated that it will be available within a year following award	Match funding is poorly outlined or confusing, or has not been convincingly articulated that it will be available within a year following award	Score between 5 and 0
Is the project an 'infrastructure' project as outlined in the Application Materials. Question # 15, 20	Yes		No	Score either 5 or 0
Potential for future private investment. Private investment defined as a for profit business investing as a result of the project. Questions # 26 and 22	The project demonstrates that private investment will take place as a result of the project.	The project shows potential for future private investment	No private investment will result from the project	Score between 5 and 0
The project will have continuing impacts such as employment opportunities, increased income or wages.	The project demonstrates that employment and/or income will increase	The project draws reasonable connections to opportunities for employment and/or income increases	The project doesn't demonstrate opportunities for increases	Score between 5 and 0
Potential # of points	10	5	0	
Extent to which the project impacts and/or meets the objectives outlined in the NBRC Strategic Plan. Question # 26	Revitalize and modernize essential infrastructure. Increase access, affordability, and use of high-speed telecommunications. Stabilize and reduce electric and thermal energy costs.	Retain , expand and diversify business enterprise. Position the region as an attractive and supportive place for creative and entrepreneurial people. Support and expand a highly productive workforce. Foster entrepreneurial leadership and capacity. Inform and align local, state, and regional economic development decision-making with regional data and perspectives.	Other	Score between 10 and 0
Extent to which the project will aid in meeting performance measures outlined in the NBRC Strategic Plan. Questions # 21,22,23	Able to articulate and draw connection between the project and one or more of the performance measures, based on feasibility studies specific to the project or documented professional opinion	General connection between the project and the performance measures outlined in the Strategic Plan.	No clear connection between performance measures and the project.	Score between 10 and 0
State Specific Criteria (Total 50 points)				
Maine (all range between 10-0 points)				
Maine Priority is to fund Economic Development or Public Infrastructure	Maine NBRC priorities are Public Infrastructure and Economic Development			
Create, retain and or attract jobs	Project clearly demonstrates commitment to job creation with evidence that jobs will be created or retained as a direct result of the investment			
Public Infrastructure/Infrastructure in support of Economic Development	Project clearly identifies a need and demonstrates how the NBRC investment will impact the situation in the region			

Education and Workforce Training	Project reliably forecasts measurable results, applicant and partners demonstrate they have experience and capability to complete the project and clearly identify impact for community, region and State		
Project readiness/ Budget/Commitment of matching funds/ Sustainable project	Project can begin immediately, including matching funds committed within 12 months of award and/or assured completion within 12-18 month timeframe. Applicant clearly identifies evidence based on assumptions and forecasts the project is sustainable		
State Specific Criteria			
New Hampshire			
Infrastructure: Addresses a public infrastructure need that impacts the regional economy	Project impact on local economic development is significant	Project impact on local economic development is moderate	Project impact on local economic development is minimal
Create new jobs and/or retain existing jobs that would otherwise be lost?	Demonstrated commitment to job creation or credible evidence that jobs will be retained as a direct result	Modeling and/or relevant studies providing forecasts of job growth over the life of the project.	Evidence based upon assumptions and forecasts of project success and future expansion
Readiness: Show that it is ready to begin if NBRC funds are granted?	Project can begin immediately, and financial commitments in place	Project will occur within the time frame, but details of funding as commitments need firming	Concern that project will be completed within the NBRC timeline and/or financial commitments not firm
Need: Show that NBRC funding is needed for the project to proceed and succeed?	Project would not otherwise occur without funding	Project would occur without NBRC funding but would have lessened impact, or could jeopardize other funding opportunities	NBRC funding is not essential for the project to move forward, or is such as small piece, that project direction and timeline is outside NBRC's ability to affect
Project Leaders: Demonstrate that the applicants and partners have the experience and capability to complete the project as stated.	Passionate applicants and project leaders that demonstrate the experience and ability to manage grants and projects; the conveyance of confidence in abilities	Project applicants and leaders that demonstrate competence and experience, but may need some assistance and/or guidance	Project applicants and/or leaders that do not convey confidence or lack experience
State Specific Criteria			
New York			
Factors to consider include:			Project Significance and Long-term Impact (Up to 10 Points Total)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall significance of the project • Impact of project on population served • Uniqueness of project • Geographic distribution of other fundable projects in this application period • Ability of the project to be replicated • Support of applicable Regional Economic Development Council 			
Specific Project Development Criteria (40 Points Total) – High (5-4 pts), Medium (3-2 pts), Low (1-0 pts)			
Project need is well documented			
Project meets a critical opportunity for communities impacted			
Project outputs and outcomes are clearly defined and reliable			
Overall costs benefit of the project measured against investment			
Sponsors' commitment to the project, credentials and track record			
Prerequisites and project development approvals in place			
Detail and accuracy of the budget			
Work plan is clear, concise and feasible for timely project completion			
State Specific Criteria			
Vermont (Each is worth up to 5 points)			
Section A: Degree to which the project aligns with and advances the 8 "Steps to Success" identified in Vermont's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) (Up to 5 points each)	Link to Vermont CEDS: http://accd.vermont.gov/sites/accdnew/files/documents/DED/CEDS/CEDSExecutiveSummary.pdf		
Makes financing available	Yes/High: 5-4 points	Somewhat/Moderate: 3-2 points	No/Low: 1-0 points
Educates a great workforce	Yes/High: 5-4 points	Somewhat/Moderate: 3-2 points	No/Low: 1-0 points

Builds for the future (infrastructure)		Yes/High: 5-4 points	Somewhat/Moderate: 3-2 points	No/Low: 1-0 points
Helps businesses flourish		Yes/High: 5-4 points	Somewhat/Moderate: 3-2 points	No/Low: 1-0 points
Enhances the Vermont brand		Yes/High: 5-4 points	Somewhat/Moderate: 3-2 points	No/Low: 1-0 points
Preserves Vermont's working landscape		Yes/High: 5-4 points	Somewhat/Moderate: 3-2 points	No/Low: 1-0 points
Cultivates innovation		Yes/High: 5-4 points	Somewhat/Moderate: 3-2 points	No/Low: 1-0 points
Plans for resilience		Yes/High: 5-4 points	Somewhat/Moderate: 3-2 points	No/Low: 1-0 points
Section B: Broad State Priorities (Up to 5 points each)				
Is the project located within or does it directly benefit a state designated downtown or village center?		Yes/High: 5-4 points	Somewhat/Moderate: 3-2 points	No/Low: 1-0 points
Degree to which the project aligns with and advances the Governor's three guiding strategic priorities: strengthen Vermont's Economy; make Vermont more affordable; and protect the most vulnerable Vermonters		Yes/High: 5-4 points	Somewhat/Moderate: 3-2 points	No/Low: 1-0 points
Section C: Financial Need (0 - 1 scale, where overall State score is multiplied by financial need score) Extent to which the NBRC funding is necessary for the project to proceed or succeed.				
Project would not happen without NBRC funding: 1	Project would happen over a significantly longer timeframe or would have to be significantly scaled back without NBRC funding: 0.8 - 0.9	Project would happen over a moderately longer timeframe or would have to be moderately scaled back without NBRC funding OR the project would still proceed as planned but the lack of NBRC funding would unsustainably stress the applicant's budget: 0.6 - 0.7	The project timeline or implementation would experience slightly adverse impacts without an NBRC grant, but for the most part would proceed as planned: 0.5	This project will happen regardless of NBRC funding, and an NBRC grant will not change the implementation of this project: 0