



SELECTION PANEL CRITERIA GUIDELINES

| Criteria | Inadequate | Barely Adequate | Good | Strong |
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| Makes a Difference in the Community | Organization has little or no impact on the community, other than on the members themselves. | Organization will impact a small number of people beyond the members. | Organization will be a resource and source of pride for many in the community. | Organization potentially will make major positive impacts in building the community and demonstrating nationally that youth are resources. |
| Youth Created, Led and Managed | Appears adult led. Youth play supporting roles & do not have substantial responsibility. | Youth lead most aspects of the organization, adults are engaged in some aspects. | Youth lead almost all aspects of the organization. Adults are involved minimally. | Young people lead all aspects of the organization – the creating, planning and execution. |
| Designed to be a Lasting/ Ongoing Organization | Organization is structured as a one-time project, and is not likely to continue. | Organization has the potential to become ongoing, but plans are vague. The organization is not structured for the future. | Organization has good potential, a good plan, and is structured to handle future member turnover. | Organization has clear plans to become ongoing, including transition plans & structured roles of responsibility for future members. |
| Involves a Strong Team | Organization involves no other youth and does not benefit others from the community. | Organization is a partnership, or involves or benefits a small group in the community. | Organization involves a small group as planners and organizers, and benefits many from the community. | Organization involves a group of youth as planners, a larger body of youth as implementers, and benefits many others. |
| Clear, Attainable Goals | Organization has no clear goals. | Organization may have some vague goals, but little or no explanation of how they will be reached. | Organization has clear short-term goals, has not developed longer-term goals. | Organization has clear goals for short term and ultimate long-term goals. |
| Credible Plan and Budget | Organization has no plans for future sustenance and no budget. | Organization has an outline of a plan and a vague budget. | Organization has a clear plan and budget, though both may need revisions. | Organization has a clear, focused plan and budget outlining how it will meet its goals. |
| Energy and Skills to Succeed | Youth show limited energy and commitment and are missing skills key to the organization's success. | Youth show some energy and commitment, and have some abilities needed to succeed. | Most of the youth have high energy, a high level of commitment, and most of the abilities needed for success. | Youth demonstrate high energy levels, unswerving commitment, and the abilities to make the organization succeed. |
| Involves an Advisor | Organization has no Advisor. | Organization has a weak Advisor. | Organization has a strong Advisor. | Organization has a strong Advisor and consistent support. |
| Ethical Standards | Youth show tendencies to involve in unethical behavior. | Youth understand right from wrong, and guide their actions ethically. | Youth have pride in their strong morals and integrity. | Youth are role models in their community for ethical behavior. |