October 2026

Butler University
Office of Sponsored Programs

Rubric for HAC Inductive Research Proposal

(see other page for deductive rubric)

	Does Not Meet Requirements	Approaches Requirements	Meets Requirements	Exceeds Requirements	Score
Review of Literature/ Relevant Background/Novelty of Research	0 No relevant literature. Does not discuss novelty	4 Mostly relevant literature; Not comprehensible by a non-expert; Incomplete or incorrect references. Little discussion of novelty in relation to past research.	6 All relevant literature; Mostly comprehensible by a non-expert; Mostly complete and correct references; Convincing description of novelty.	9 All relevant literature; Fully comprehensible by a non-expert; Complete and correct references; Convincing description of novelty.	
Significance to the Field, Significance to the Author, Broader Societal Significance, & Future Implications	0 No description of the significance of the project	3 Briefly mentions the significance of the project to the field, author, broader society, or future research objectives; Missing key details or information	6 Justifies the need for the current project for the field, for the author, or for future research objectives; Short description of the broader societal significance. Missing minor details or information	9 Justifies the need for the current project for the field, for the author, and for future research objectives; Convincing description of the broader societal significance. Missing minor details or information	
Broader/Butler Impact	0 Missing discussion of broader impacts	3 Minor mention of how the proposal will impact the research and/or teaching infrastructure at Butler	6 Justification of how the proposal will impact the research and/or teaching infrastructure at Butler	9 Plan to work with undergraduate students and compelling justification of how the proposal will impact the research and/or teaching infrastructure at Butler	
Objectives	0 No objectives identified	2 Incomplete or unclear objectives	4 Realistic and clearly stated objectives, research hypothesis, or goals	6 Detailed, realistic, and clearly stated objectives, research hypothesis, and/or goals	
Methodology (Processes, Measures Analysis)	0 No process, measures or analysis included	3 Brief description of process, measures and analysis as appropriate	6 Complete description of process, measures and analysis as appropriate	9 Complete and comprehensive description of process, measures and analysis as appropriate	
Timeline	0 No timeline included	1 Timeline is incomplete or unreasonable	2 Timeline is complete and reasonable	3 Timeline is complete, reasonable, and thorough	
Reporting	0 No reporting included	1 Reporting is incomplete or unreasonable	2 Reporting is complete and reasonable	3 Reporting is complete, reasonable, and thorough	
Budget and Budget Justification	0 No itemized budget or justification for expenditures	3 Vaguely addressed itemized budget or justification for expenditures	6 Complete itemized budget; Major expenditures include basic justification	9 Complete itemized budget; Thoroughly addressed each expenditure with clear justification; Direct costs versus stipends	
Professionalism	0 Three items under 'exceeds expectations' are missing or inadequate	1 No more than two of the items under 'exceeds expectations' are missing or inadequate	2 No more than one of the items under 'exceeds expectations' are missing or inadequate	3 Proper formatting and grammar throughout proposal, all required sections present and well-formatted in the proposal, professional tone reflects expectations for an outside, competitive research proposal	
				1 for no successful HAC	
				1 for Associate Professor	
				3 for Assistant Professor	
				TOTAL	
				Percent (TOTAL/60)	

October 2026

Butler University
Office of Sponsored Programs

Rubric for HAC Deductive Research Proposal

(see other page for inductive rubric)

	Does Not Meet Requirements	Approaches Requirements	Meets Requirements	Exceeds Requirements	Score
Review of Literature/ Relevant Background/Novelty of Research	0 No relevant literature. Does not discuss novelty	4 Mostly relevant literature; Not comprehensible by a non-expert; Incomplete or incorrect references. Little discussion of novelty in relation to past research.	6 All relevant literature; Mostly comprehensible by a non-expert; Mostly complete and correct references; Convincing description of novelty.	9 All relevant literature; Fully comprehensible by a non-expert; Complete and correct references; Convincing description of novelty.	
Significance to the Field, Significance to the Author, Broader Societal Significance, & Future Implications	0 No description of the significance of the project	3 Briefly mentions the significance of the project to the field, author, broader society, or future research objectives; Missing key details or information	6 Justifies the need for the current project for the field, for the author, or for future research objectives; Short description of the broader societal significance. Missing minor details or information	9 Justifies the need for the current project for the field, for the author, and for future research objectives; Convincing description of the broader societal significance. Missing minor details or information	
Broader/Butler Impact	0 Missing discussion of broader impacts at Butler	3 Minor mention of how the proposal will impact the research and/or teaching infrastructure at Butler	6 Justification of how the proposal will impact the research and/or teaching infrastructure at Butler	9 Plan to work with undergraduate students and compelling justification of how the proposal will impact the research and/or teaching infrastructure at Butler	
Deductive Problem Statement	0 No clear problem statement	5 Problem is well described	10 Problem is well described and feasibility is addressed	15 Problem is well described, feasibility is addressed (including partial results), and prior success is described	
Timeline	0 No timeline included	1 Timeline is incomplete or unreasonable	2 Timeline is complete and reasonable	3 Timeline is complete, reasonable, and thorough	
Reporting	0 No reporting included	1 Reporting is incomplete or unreasonable	2 Reporting is complete and reasonable	3 Reporting is complete, reasonable, and thorough	
Budget and Budget Justification	0 No itemized budget or justification for expenditures	3 Vaguely addressed itemized budget or justification for expenditures	6 Complete itemized budget; Major expenditures include basic justification	9 Complete itemized budget; Thoroughly addressed each expenditure with clear justification; Direct costs versus stipends	
Professionalism	0 Three items under 'exceeds expectations' are missing or inadequate	1 No more than two of the items under 'exceeds expectations' are missing or inadequate	2 No more than one of the items under 'exceeds expectations' are missing or inadequate	3 Proper formatting and grammar throughout proposal, all required sections present and well-formatted in the proposal, professional tone reflects expectations for an outside, competitive research proposal	
				1 for no successful HAC	
				1 for Associate Professor	
				3 for Assistant Professor	
				TOTAL	
				Percent (TOTAL/60)	