

AHRQ Peer Review Scoring Descriptor Table

	Score	Descriptor	Additional Guidance on Strengths/Weaknesses
High	1	Exceptional	Exceptionally strong with essentially no weaknesses
	2	Outstanding	Extremely strong with negligible weaknesses
	3	Excellent	Very strong with only some minor weaknesses*
Medium	4	Very Good	Strong but with numerous minor weaknesses
	5	Good	Strong but with at least one moderate weakness**
	6	Satisfactory	Some strengths but also some moderate weaknesses
Low	7	Fair	Some strengths but with at least one major weakness
	8	Marginal	A few strengths and a few major weaknesses***
	9	Poor	Very few strengths and numerous major weaknesses

Non-numeric score options:

DF = Deferred, AB = Abstention, CF = Conflict, NP = Not Present, ND = Not Discussed

***Minor Weakness:** An easily addressable weakness that does not substantially lessen impact

****Moderate Weakness:** A weakness that lessens impact

*****Major Weakness:** A weakness that severely limits impact

- Applications that are not discussed at the meeting will not be given an overall Final Impact Score, but the applicant, as well as the AHRQ staff will see the preliminary scores for each review criteria as additional feedback on their summary statement
- For each criterion rating, the strengths and weaknesses within that review criterion should be considered