

Review Criteria at a Glance – Sparks! Ignition Grants for Museums

STATEMENT OF NEED

- Is the project clearly explained?
- Is the need, problem, or challenge to be addressed clearly identified and supported by relevant evidence?
- Are the people who will benefit from the project clearly identified, and have they been involved in planning the project?
- Does the project address current needs of the museum field and/or have the potential to advance practice in the museum profession?
- Does the project meet the Sparks Grants requirement of demonstrating broad impact, in-depth knowledge, and an innovative approach?

IMPACT

- Is the plan for collecting and reporting data corresponding to the Performance Goal(s) and Performance Measure Statement(s) selected for the project well designed and feasible?
- Are the project's intended results clearly articulated, appropriate, realistic, and linked to the need, problem, or challenge addressed by the project?
- If successful, what value will the results from the proposed project provide to the museum field?

PROJECT DESIGN

- Are the proposed activities informed by appropriate theory and practice?
- Are the proposed evaluation activities and performance measurements appropriate for the project? Will they result in valid, reliable, and generalizable findings?
- Do the identified staff, partners, consultants, and service providers possess the experience and skills necessary to complete the work successfully?
- Is the schedule of work realistic and achievable?
- Are the time, personnel, and financial resources identified appropriate for the scope and scale of the project?
- Does the institution provide evidence of its capacity to carry out the project activities?
- Is a clear methodology described for tracking the project's progress and adjusting course when necessary?
- Is there an effective plan for communicating results and/or sharing discoveries?