

Bright Beginnings Scoring Rubric

Grant scoring is based on five key categories: *organizational capacity, program design, program site(s), sustainability plan, and document uploads*. Each category carries a maximum point value. Applications are peer-reviewed by a panel of experts in children's services, who evaluate submissions using a sliding scale from Exemplary to Insufficient. Funding recommendations are determined by the cumulative scores assigned by the reviewers. The maximum number of points a application may earn is 105 points. Points will be awarded for each section of the application narrative as follows:

Categories	Point Value	Scoring Considerations
Organizational Capacity	20 pts	- Clearly stated mission and goals (5 pts) - Currently offers well-attended programming (5 pts) - Organizational capacity to administer proposed program (5 pts) - Organizational presence in the community to be served (5 pts)
Program Design	35 pts	- Program is clearly described and is beneficial to the target population (5 pts) - Clearly stated location of programming and a plan to overcome transportation barriers (5 pts) - Proposed staffing aligns with program design and grant requirements (5 pts) - Recruitment and retainment of participants is doable (5 pts) - Justification of community need or benefit to the community (5 pts) - Area(s) of focus and targeted population(s)/community need align with the overall program description (5 pts) - Ability to implement a structured curriculum while accurately collecting and maintaining all required data (5 pts)
Sustainability Plan	10 pts	- Organization provided a financial sustainability plan, detailing how they will maintain services beyond ECT funding (5 pts) - Local contributions, fundraising efforts, and other initiatives that demonstrate the organization's ability to achieve success (5 pts)
Budget	25 pts	- Application budget (25 pts) - Budget request is in line with the Bright Beginnings cost per participant (5pts) - Line-item, amount requested, and justification is reasonable(5pts) - Line-item justification is detailed and clearly states the use of the amount requested(10pts) - No erroneous line items, good stewards of public funding(5pts)
Uploads	10 pts	- All required documentation has been uploaded and are current (5pts) - Community endorsements clearly demonstrate the need and strong support for the program (5pts)

Bonus Points	5 pts	• Programming serving residents in the Century, Warrington/Navy Point, Beulah, and Ensley/Ferry Pass neighborhoods. (5 pts) • Each scoring category is scaled between: ○ Exemplary (max points awarded) – Applicant addresses all scoring considerations. Reviewer has a clear understanding of the information presented in relation to each category ○ Insufficient (zero points awarded) – Application is not complete or does not fit in with the Bright Beginnings grant’s framework. The reviewer is unable to grasp the intent of the applying organization or is unsure of the organizations ability to execute the proposed program.
Total Points	105 pts	