



Project SCALES Review Criteria, Cohort 2 Grants	
Total Possible = 100 points	
Goals, Activities, and Outcomes (20 points)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Is the plan specified in the “Project Description” section clear?▪ Is the plan for activities well-reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the goals?▪ Is the project SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound)?▪ Does the application clearly describe the activities to occur during the project period, as well as what, how, and by whom each activity will occur?▪ Does the application outline goals and objectives that align with the RFA?▪ Will the project use key performance indicators as described in the RFA?	
Innovation (15 points)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Does the project innovatively address a challenge in school food systems?▪ Does the project encourage innovative partnerships between food manufacturers and the school food system?▪ Does the project include innovations in new product development to meet school food system needs?▪ Does the application seek to use novel concepts, approaches, or programs?	
Significance (15 points)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ What is the scale of the potential impact on school food systems and markets?▪ Will the project improve the nutritional profile of school foods?▪ Does the project have the potential to improve the foods marketed to students?▪ Does the project have potential to inform knowledge that may work in other US communities?	
Partnerships (20 points)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Does the project involve multiple partners in a meaningful way?▪ Does the project include a food industry and SFA partnership?▪ Does the project have the potential to benefit communities through support from the food industry?	
Capacity (10 points)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Does the application demonstrate an understanding of challenges facing SFAs in meeting meal pattern standards?▪ Does the application demonstrate an organizational commitment to child nutrition?▪ Does the application confirm that the lead partner organization and project director will be able to engage in the technical assistance, reporting, and evaluation activities?▪ Is the programmatic point of contact positioned to be successful (i.e., having institutional support, relationships, experience, and a willingness to share what they learn with others)?	



Need (10 points)

- Does the application use data to describe the community context?
- Does the application clearly identify the need in the community?
- Does the application clearly describe supply chain challenges faced by SFAs and/or food industry?

Social Responsibility and Opportunity (5 points)

- Does the applicant demonstrate attention to social responsibility in the project design?
- Does the application show potential for meaningful impact on equity by supporting underserved communities' access to healthy school foods?
- Does the application propose to contract or partner with businesses with economically or socially disadvantaged owners?
- Will results be relevant to SFAs that serve disadvantaged students?

Sustainment of the Innovation (5 points)

- Are the activities to be completed during the project period likely to be sustainable beyond the end of the grant period without additional funding?
- Does the applicant have a plan for sustaining local procurement after the grant ends?