

## AHA PEER REVIEW SCORING CHART TOOL

It is critical that reviewers use the full range of the rating scale and spread their scores. To encourage reviewers to spread their scores, the AHA has sent you this scoring chart that should be used twice (2 separate times).

### To use the chart, you should do the following:

#### First use

- Before you start preparing your critiques and reading the proposals - Print a copy of the scoring chart.
- As you review your grants, assign a preliminary score to each grant, and put a tick mark in the appropriate bin on the scoring table.
- Ensure that the number of grants in the Streamlined bin (SL) matches the target number (50%). If you have streamlined fewer grants, take another hard look at the grants that you have scored poorly. Do they deserve discussion? If your answer is yes, keep the score; if you don't feel they are competitive, they should be streamlined.
- Ensure that the grants that you have scored are spread out across the scale. There should not be multiple scores in any one bin.

#### Second use

During the meeting, have a new printout of the scoring table available. As each grant is scored, make a tick mark in the appropriate bin. This will help you determine whether scores are being appropriately spread or are clustered at the good end. If during the discussion scores are suggested that are skewed at one end, it may be necessary to re-discuss the study section's scoring criteria. Skewed scores make it more difficult for AHA to make rational funding decisions.

### **Merit Score Scale**

#### **REMINDE YOURSELF TO USE THE WHOLE RANGE AND S-P-R-E-A-D THE SCORES**

<b>1.0 to 1.3</b>	(1.0) to (1.3) application is <b>Outstanding</b> (strengths very much greater than any weaknesses) <b>strengths &gt;&gt;&gt; any weaknesses</b>
<b>1.4 to 1.7</b>	(1.4) to (1.7) application is <b>Excellent</b> (strengths much greater than any weaknesses) <b>strengths &gt;&gt; any weaknesses</b>
<b>1.8 to 2.1</b>	(1.8) to (2.0 - 2.1) application is <b>Very Good</b> (strengths greater than any weaknesses) <b>strengths &gt; any weaknesses</b>
<b>2.2 to 2.5</b>	(2.2) to (2.5) application is <b>Good</b> (any strengths equivalent to any weaknesses) <b>any strengths = any weaknesses</b>
<b>2.6 to 2.9</b>	(2.6) to (2.9) application is <b>Fair</b> (weaknesses greater than any strengths) <b>weaknesses &gt; any strengths</b>
<b>3.0 to 3.9</b>	(3.0) to (3.9) application is <b>Poor</b> (weaknesses much greater than any strengths) <b>weaknesses &gt;&gt; any strengths</b>
<b>4.0 to 4.8</b>	(4.0) to (4.8) application is <b>Marginal</b> (weaknesses very much greater than any strengths) <b>weaknesses &gt;&gt;&gt; any strengths</b>

