

## Northern Border Regional Commission - Overall Criteria (50 points total)

Potential # of points	5	3	1	Score between 5 and 0
How does the project impact on meeting the priorities and/or strategies of a regional or state development plan? Questions # 24 and 25.	Clearly explain connection, listed within a CEDS or other regional document and how it aligns with	Secondary or tertiary connection is articulated, can draw connection to strategies outlined	Distant connection or vague relations to strategies	Score between 5 and 0
<a href="#">Is the project located in an Opportunity Zone? The recently passed Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 created Opportunity Zones, which are specially created geographic districts that grant investors tax breaks for investment capital – including tax-free income. NBRC is currently working on a map, until then the best reference is here:   <a href="https://esrimedia.maps.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=77f3cad12b6c4bffb816332544f04542">https://esrimedia.maps.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=77f3cad12b6c4bffb816332544f04542</a> You will need to put in the physical address of the location of the project. I must be within the census tract, not just the town. Regional projects such as technical assistance etc. will not qualify.</a>	The investment is located within an Opportunity Zone		The investment is not located within an Opportunity Zone	Score between 5 and 0
Extent to which match funding needed to complete the project is realistic and available within a year of being awarded. Questions # 23 and 25	Match funding is committed to the project at time of application	Match funding has been clearly outlined and has been demonstrated that it will be available within a year following award	Match funding is poorly outlined or confusing, or has not been convincingly articulated that it will be available within a year following award	Score between 5 and 0
Is the project an 'infrastructure' project as outlined in the Application Materials. Questions #15 and 20	Yes		No	Score either 5 or 0
Potential for future private investment. Private investment defined as for profit business investing as a result of the project. Questions # 26 and 22.	The project demonstrates that private investment will take place as a result of the project.	The project shows potential for future private investment	No private investment will result from the project	Score between 5 and 0
The project will have continuing impacts such as employment opportunities, increased income or wages.	The project demonstrates that employment and/or income will increase	The project draws reasonable connections to opportunities for employment and/or income increases	The project doesn't demonstrate opportunities for increases	Score between 5 and 0
Potential # of points	10	5	0	Score between 10 and 0
Extent to which the project impacts and/or meets the objectives outlined in the NBRC Strategic Plan. Question # 26	<b>Revitalize</b> and modernize essential infrastructure. <b>Increase</b> access, affordability, and use of high-speed telecommunications. <b>Stabilize</b> and reduce electric and thermal energy costs.	<b>Retain</b> , expand and diversify business enterprise. <b>Position</b> the region as an attractive and supportive place for creative and entrepreneurial people. <b>Support</b> and expand a highly productive workforce. <b>Foster</b> entrepreneurial leadership and capacity. <b>Inform</b> and align local, state, and regional economic development decision-making with regional data and perspectives.	Other	Score between 10 and 0
Extent to which the project will aid in meeting performance measures outlined in the NBRC Strategic Plan. Questions #21, 22, 23.	Able to articulate and draw connection between the project and one or more of the performance measures, based on feasibility studies specific to the project or documented professional opinion	General connection between the project and the performance measures outlined in the Strategic Plan.	No clear connection between performance measures and the project.	Score between 10 and 0

## Northern Border Regional Commission - State Specific (50 points total)

Maine (all range between 10-0 points)				
Maine's priority is to fund Economic Development or Public Infrastructure projects.				
Maine's Priority (10 Points Max) If the project is Economic Development, Public Infrastructure/Infrastructure and Tourism (including Outdoor Recreation) Create, retain or attract jobs	Maine NBRC Priorities are Public Infrastructure and Economic Development			
Public Infrastructure/Infrastructure in support of Economic Development	Project clearly demonstrates commitment to job creation with evidence that jobs will be created or retained as a direct result of the investment.			
Education and Workforce training	Project clearly identifies a need and demonstrates how the NBRC investment will impact the situation in the region.			
Project readiness/Budget/Commitment of matching funds/Sustainable project	Project reliably forecasts measurable results, applicant and partners demonstrate they have experience and capability to complete the project and clearly identify impact for community, region and State			
	Project can begin immediately, including matching funds committed within 12 months of award and/or assured completion within 12-18 month timeframe. Applicant clearly identifies evidence based on assumptions and forecasts the project is sustainable.			
New Hampshire				
	10 -7 points (yes/ high)	6-4 points (somewhat/moderate)	3-0 points (no/low)	Scores range from 10-0
Invests in infrastructure that provides long-term community and economic impacts				
Builds regional capacity to carry out community economic development strategies				
	5-4 points (yes/high)	3-2 points (somewhat/moderate)	1-0 points (no/low)	Scores range from 5-0
Strengthens or expands New Hampshire's skilled workforce				
Supports and encourages entrepreneurship and innovation				
Leverages existing local and regional resources to promote economic growth				

Demonstrates organizational capacity to implement and sustain project is evident (managerial, financial etc.)				
Demonstrates an effective understanding and integration of local economic development partner initiatives and plans				
NBRC funding is a necessary part of the project's funding portfolio				
<b>New York</b>				
Regional significance and Long-Term Impact 10-0 points				
Factors considered in determining regional significance and long-term impact: Job creation and retention, Investment in downtowns, geographic distribution of funding projects, delivery of a critical service, uniqueness and innovation				
Specific Project Development Criteria (40 points; each worth up to 5 points) High: 5-4 points; Medium: 3-2 points; Low 1-0 points				
Project Need				
Project meets a critical opportunity for communities impacted				
Project Impact				
Project outputs and outcomes are clearly defined and reliable				
Cost benefit of the project measured against NBRC investment				
Implementation Capacity and Commitment				
Sponsor's commitment to the project, credentials and track record				
Project readiness, including requisite approvals				
Budget				
Detail and accuracy of the budget				
Work plan and Timeline				
Work plan is clear and feasible for timely project completion				
<b>Vermont</b>				
Section A: Degree to which the project aligns with and advances the 8 "Steps to Success" identified in Vermont's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs) (Up to 5 points each)		Link to Vermont CEDs: <a href="http://accd.vermont.gov/sites/accdnew/files/documents/DED/CEDs/CEDSExecutiveSummary.pdf">http://accd.vermont.gov/sites/accdnew/files/documents/DED/CEDs/CEDSExecutiveSummary.pdf</a>		
Makes financing available	Yes/High: 5-4 points	Somewhat/Moderate: 3-2 points	No/Low: 1-0 points	
Educates a great workforce	Yes/High: 5-4 points	Somewhat/Moderate: 3-2 points	No/Low: 1-0 points	
Builds for the future (infrastructure)	Yes/High: 5-4 points	Somewhat/Moderate: 3-2 points	No/Low: 1-0 points	
Helps businesses flourish	Yes/High: 5-4 points	Somewhat/Moderate: 3-2 points	No/Low: 1-0 points	
Preserves Vermont's working landscape	Yes/High: 5-4 points	Somewhat/Moderate: 3-2 points	No/Low: 1-0 points	
Cultivates innovation	Yes/High: 5-4 points	Somewhat/Moderate: 3-2 points	No/Low: 1-0 points	
Plans for resilience	Yes/High: 5-4 points	Somewhat/Moderate: 3-2 points	No/Low: 1-0 points	
Section B: Broad State Priorities (Up to 5 points each)				
Is the project located within or does it directly benefit a state designated downtown or village center or Opportunity Zone?	Yes/High: 5-4 points	Somewhat/Moderate: 3-2 points	No/Low: 1-0 points	
Degree to which the project aligns with and advances the Governor's three guiding strategic priorities: strengthen Vermont's Economy; make Vermont more affordable; and protect the most vulnerable Vermonters	Yes/High: 5-4 points	Somewhat/Moderate: 3-2 points	No/Low: 1-0 points	
Section C: Financial Need (5 points)				
Extent to which NBRC funding is necessary for the project to proceed or succeed. Project would not happen without NBRC funding: 5 points	Project would happen over a significantly longer timeframe or would have to be significantly scaled back without NBRC funding: 4 points	Project would happen over a moderately longer timeframe or would have to be moderately scaled back without NBRC funding OR the project would still proceed as planned but the lack of NBRC funding would unsustainably stress the applicant's budget: 3 points	The project timeline or implementation would experience slightly adverse impacts without an NBRC grant, but for the most part would proceed as planned: 2 points	This project will happen regardless of NBRC funding, and an NBRC grant will not change the implementation of this project: 0 points