

**265—46.7(16) Scoring criteria.**

**46.7(1) *Financial feasibility.*** Thirty-five percent of the total possible points shall be based on financial feasibility of the proposed project. Elements considered under financial feasibility shall include but not be limited to:

- a. Experience of the eligible entity in financial management;
- b. A detailed project budget detailing all sources of funds as well as expected project costs. This would include information on whether other funding has been received, applied for or just identified;
- c. A project timeline, including information on the development of plans and specifications for the project, needed approvals and permits, and project construction start and completion dates;
- d. A maintenance plan for the project, including information on the likely useful life of the project, the party or parties responsible for maintaining the project, the cost of maintenance, and how those costs will be paid; and
- e. In the case of loans, the source(s) of funds for loan repayment.

**46.7(2) *Project collaboration.*** Thirty percent of the total possible points shall be based on project collaboration. Elements considered under project collaboration shall include but not be limited to:

- a. A description of all parties involved in the project, including the roles, responsibilities, qualifications and experience of each party;
- b. A description of any formal agreements among the parties and the status of those agreements;
- c. A statement of the financial commitments of each party in the entity with respect to the project, including contributions of cash, gifts, or loans; and
- d. A description of whether the project is part of a larger coordinated effort to improve water quality.

**46.7(3) *Water quality benefit.*** Thirty-five percent of the total possible points shall be based on water quality benefit. Elements considered under the water quality benefit of the project shall include but not be limited to:

- a. The identification of the specific watershed where the project will be located;
- b. Whether a comprehensive watershed plan has been completed and water quality impairments have been identified for the watershed;
- c. Whether the goals of the project are targeted to impact the identified impairments in the watershed, including a description of methods used to determine practices and the location of practices to reach those goals;
- d. Information on how results of the project will be measured (e.g., by quantity of pollution being reduced or the percentage of pollution being reduced); and
- e. A description of how the project will use practices identified in the Iowa nutrient reduction strategy.

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