

2025 DaVinci Fellowship – Nominee Evaluation Rubric

Creative thinking is both the capacity to combine or synthesize existing ideas, images or expertise in original ways and the experience of thinking, reacting and working in an imaginative way characterized by a high degree of innovation, divergent thinking, and risk taking.

The maximum score for each nomination is 25 points. Scoring is based on a point scale with the points applied in the following manner:

A. Letter of Recommendation from the Nominator (one typewritten page): 1-5 points

The letter should give you a clear picture of the nominee’s accomplishments rather than just platitudes.

Recommendation Letter Score: _____

B. Written Narrative by Nominee (one to three typewritten pages): 3-15 points

Provide a criteria score of 1-5 for each of the three criteria areas below and add these three scores together for a composite Narrative Score.

Criteria Area from Nomination Form	Extraordinary (4-5 points)	Outstanding (2-3 points)	Minimum Expected (1 point)	Criteria Score
<i>Identification of a complex issue, problem, or situation for which the individual is being nominated</i>	Addresses a unique, domain appropriate challenge	Addresses a domain appropriate challenge	Addresses an unremarkable task	
<i>Explanation of a creative approach to the issue, problem, or situation</i>	Not only develops a logical, consistent plan to solve the issue but also recognizes consequences of solution and can articulate reason for choosing solution	Having selected from among alternatives, develops a logical, consistent plan to solve the problem	Only a single approach is considered and is used to solve the problem	
<i>Description of the effectiveness and/or results of the nominee’s past accomplishments</i>	Transforms ideas or solutions into entirely new forms or product to create new knowledge or knowledge that crosses disciplinary boundaries	Connects ideas or solutions in novel way; creates a novel or unique idea, question, format, or product	Recognizes existing connections among ideas or solutions or reformulates a collection of available ideas	

Composite Narrative Score for Nominee: _____

C. Supporting Materials (max ten pages): 0-5 points.

Supporting Materials Score: _____

TOTAL FELLOWSHIP NOMINEE SCORE (A + B + C): _____