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group as described in paragraph (b) of this section;

(2) The relevance of the project for which construction is proposed to the objectives and priorities of the particular program authorized by the Act;

(3) The scientific merit of the research activities that will be carried out in the proposed facility;

(4) The scientific or professional standing or reputation of the applicant and of its existing or proposed officers and research staff;

(5) The availability, by affiliation or other association, of other scientific or health personnel and facilities to the extent necessary to carry out effectively the program proposed for the facility, including the adequacy of an acceptable biohazard control and containment program when warranted;

(6) The need for the facility and its total effects on similar or related facilities in the locale, and the need for appropriate geographic distribution of similar facilities; and

(7) The financial need of the applicant.

(b) The priority score of the application shall be based, among other pertinent factors, on the following criteria:

(1) The scientific merit of the total program and its component parts to be carried out in the facility;

(2) The administrative and leadership capabilities of the applicant's officers and staff;

(3) The organization of the applicant's research program and its relationship with the applicant's overall research programs;

(4) The anticipated effect of the project on other relevant research programs and facilities in the geographic area, and nationwide;

(5) The need for the project or additional space; and

(6) The project cost and design.

§ 52b.6 What is the rate of federal financial participation?

(a) Unless otherwise specified by statute, the rate of federal financial participation in a construction project supported by a grant under this part shall not be more than 50 percent of the necessary allowable costs of construction as determined by the Director, except that when the Director finds good cause for waiving this limitation, the amount of the construction grant may be more than 50 percent of the necessary allowable costs of construction.

(b) Subject to paragraph (a) of this section, the Director shall set the actual rate of federal financial participation in the necessary allowable costs of construction, taking into consideration the most effective use of available federal funds to further the purposes of the applicable provisions of the Act.

§ 52b.7 How is the grantee obligated to use the facility?

(a) The grantee shall use the facility (or that portion of the facility supported by a grant under this part) for its originally authorized purpose so long as needed for that purpose, or other period prescribed by statute, unless the grantee obtains advance approval from the Director, in the form and manner as the Director may prescribe, to use the facility for another purpose. Use for other purposes shall be limited as prescribed in §52b.9(c)(2).

(b) The Director, in determining whether to approve an alternative use of the facility, shall take into consideration the extent to which:

(1) The facility will be used by the grantee or other owner for a purpose described in 52b.9(c)(2); or

(2) There are reasonable assurances that alternative facilities not previously used for NIH supported research will be utilized to carry out the original purpose as prescribed in \$52b.9(c)(1).

(c) Sale or transfer. In the form and manner as the Director may prescribe, the grantee may request the Director's approval to sell the facility or transfer title to a third party eligible under §52b.3 for continued use of the facility for an authorized purpose in accordance with paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section. If approval is permissible under the Act or other federal statute and is granted, the terms of the transfer shall provide that the transferee shall assume all the rights and obligations of the transferor set forth in 45 CFR part 74, the regulations of this part, and the other terms and conditions of the grant.