

CONTENT						
Category	Accomplished (7 pts.)	Competent (5 pts.)	Developing (3 pts.)	Beginning (1 pt.)	No Evidence (0 pts.)	Total
Problem/Need Definition	Team demonstrates a deep understanding of the problem, including causes, context, scale, and populations impacted; the need is compellingly framed.	Team clearly understands the problem and its relevance; one or more dimensions may be underdeveloped.	Team shows a developing understanding of the problem but does not clearly connect it to the proposed solution.	Understanding is surface-level or vague; problem is poorly defined.	Problem/need is not identified.	/7
Research & Multiple Perspectives	Thorough research is evident; multiple credible sources and perspectives clearly inform the proposed solution.	Some research is evident and informs parts of the solution, though depth may vary.	Minimal research; some assumptions appear unvalidated or insufficiently supported.	Solution relies heavily on personal assumptions rather than research.	No evidence of research.	/7
Clarity of Solution Definition	Team has a clearly-defined solution that is well matched to ultimate consumer needs based on research. Potential solution is deeply connected and responsive to multiple dimensions of the identified need.	Team has a clear solution that is well matched to consider needs, but uses minimal research references.	Team's solution is somewhat unclear and does not adequately address the consumer needs. It also includes minimal research references.	Team proposes a solution that does not align to the identified need.	Team does not define a product/solution.	/7
Innovation	Solution is fundamentally different from existing approaches and addresses the problem in a new way.	Moderately innovative or improves upon existing approaches.	Interesting idea, but not distinctly innovative.	Solution is neither new nor meaningfully different from existing approaches.	No solution defined.	/7
Feasibility/Realism	Solution thoughtfully considers constraints (time, cost, resources, partnerships) with practical strategies to address barriers.	Solution is generally realistic but leaves some practical questions unanswered.	Solution could work but faces significant, unaddressed practical challenges.	Solution is unlikely to be realistically implemented.	No evidence of feasibility.	/7
Sustainability/Scale	Clear, concrete plan for sustaining and/or scaling the solution over time (leadership, funding, partnerships, systems).	Some ideas for sustainability are present, but parts of the plan need further development.	Significant gaps in how the solution would be sustained.	Team presents a proposed solution that does not align with the impacted population needs. Plan is unlikely to realistically be implemented to address the defined problem.	Plan is unrealistic or misaligned with impacted population needs.	/7
Impact on Students/Community	Demonstrates significant, meaningful, and clearly articulated impact with potential to scale or influence others.	Clear positive impact is described.	Some potential benefit, but impact is limited or unclear.	Minimal or unclear benefit.	No evidence of impact.	/7
FORMAT						
Category	Accomplished (4 pts.)	Competent (3 pts.)	Developing (2 pts.)	Beginning (1 pt.)	No Evidence (0 pts.)	Total
Organization/Structural Development of the Idea (Including Title Page & Abstract)	Logical, sophisticated organization with strong transitions; clear thesis, well-developed paragraphs, and coherent flow; includes title page and abstract; paper meets 5-7 page length requirement (excluding references).	Logical organization with minor weaknesses in transitions or development; includes title page and abstract; generally meets page-length requirement.	Organization is present but underdeveloped; structure may be inconsistent; page length may be slightly outside requirement.	Limited evidence of structure or organization; may significantly miss page-length requirement.	No clear structure; missing title page and/or abstract; page length requirement not met.	/4
Mechanics & Usage	No errors in sentence structure, punctuation, capitalization, spelling, or word usage.	Almost no errors; writing is clear and professional.	Some errors that do not significantly impede understanding.	Many errors that distract from meaning.	Numerous, distracting errors that impede comprehension.	/4
Citations & Bibliography (APA Required)	All sources are correctly cited in APA format with no errors; includes 5+ credible references.	Mostly correct APA citations with some inconsistencies; includes 4 references.	Few citations are correctly formatted in APA; includes 3 references.	Citations are largely incorrect and/or insufficient; inconsistent with APA.	No citations or bibliography provided.	/4