**Section 425.215 Merit Based Review of Grant Applications**

a) Competitive grants under the IQLC Grant Program shall have evaluation criteria designed to determine whether the proposed CMP fund project or use will protect or improve the quality of care or quality of life for residents.

b) The evaluation criteria and process will be set forth in the NOFO and will comply with Section 7000.350 of the GATA Rules. At a minimum, the evaluation criteria shall include:

1) Need: Identification of stakeholders, data, facts and evidence that demonstrate proposed CMP grant project or CMP fund use will protect or improve the quality of care or quality of life for residents;

2) Capacity: The ability of a grant applicant to execute the proposed CMP grant project or CMP fund use according to project requirements;

3) Quality: The totality of features and characteristics of proposed CMP grant project or CMP fund use that indicates its ability to protect or improve the quality of care or quality of life for residents;

4) Sustainability: The continuation of benefits from CMP grant project or CMP fund use after the project is completed. The probability of continued long-term benefits. The resilience to risk of the net benefit over time;

5) Duplication of Effort: The extent to which the objectives of a CMP grant project or CMP fund use do not duplicate existing requirements or other federal or state services; and where duplication of said project is outweighed by creating future improvements to the quality of care and/or quality of life for residents;

6) Cost Effectiveness: Productiveness relative to the cost and ability to utilize and optimize resources, measure the results of strategies, objectives and outcomes where benefits are non-financial; and

7) Feasibility: Likelihood the CMP grant project or CMP fund use can be accomplished by the applicant within the proposed time and budget given their experience, expertise, and available resources.