



2011 Competition Statistics Discovery Grants Program *(Updated May 30, 2011)*

This report includes tables and figures that provide additional information on the 2011 Discovery Grants competition.

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SECTION 1 – GENERAL STATISTICS

The number of applications was higher, relative to 2009 and 2010, reaching 3,482, reflecting an increasing number of returning unfunded applicants.

Going into the competition, there were 1,863 renewal applicants who held grants of, on average, \$30,999; after the competition, there are 2,002 funded researchers at an average grant level of \$32,186.

NSERC continued to put a strong emphasis on giving early-career researchers a chance to demonstrate their potential and exceeded the minimum target success rate of fifty percent recommended in the [International Review](#) of the NSERC Discovery Grants Program.

Table 1. Overall Comparative Statistics – 2011 Discovery Grants Competition¹

Data¹	Number of Applications	Number of Awards	Amount Awarded	Success rate (%)	Average Grant
Early-career researchers (ECR)	457	245	\$5,507,932	54	\$22,481
Established researchers (ER)					
applicants who held a grant	1,858	1,377	\$48,256,932	74	\$35,045
applicants not previously holding a grant ²	1,167	380	\$10,671,233	33	\$28,082

1. Includes Discovery and Subatomic Physics (Individual and Team) grants.

2. Includes returning unfunded applicants and experienced researchers submitting a first application.

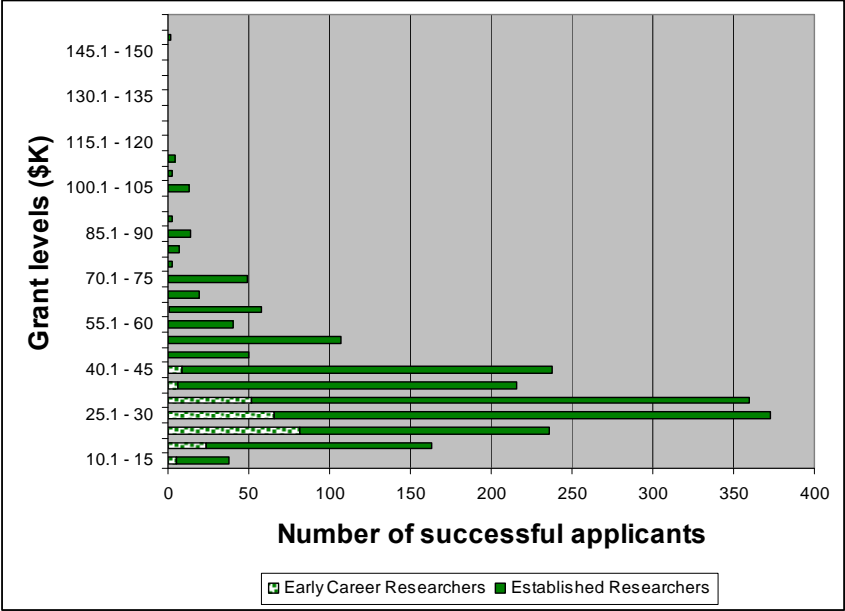
Table 2. Discovery Grants¹ Competition Results by University – 2011 Competition

Institution	Early Career Researchers			Established Researchers - Renewals			Established Researchers - not previously holding a grant		
	Success Rate	Total Amount	Average Grant	Success Rate	Total Amount	Average Grant	Success Rate	Total Amount	Average Grant
Acadia	*	*	*	*	*	*	0%	0	0
Alberta	58%	302,000	20,133	82%	3,065,000	36,488	48%	767,000	29,500
Athabasca	*	*	*	*	*	*	0%	0	0
British Columbia	57%	302,000	23,231	91%	4,012,674	40,127	49%	748,000	26,714
Brock	*	*	*	50%	141,000	23,500	23%	62,000	20,667
Calgary	64%	177,000	25,286	62%	1,223,600	33,070	33%	520,200	32,513
Cape Breton	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Carleton	77%	241,000	24,100	71%	771,000	28,556	24%	110,000	18,333
Concordia	64%	159,000	22,714	71%	838,700	28,921	33%	149,000	21,286
Dalhousie	57%	88,000	22,000	73%	1,399,400	34,132	34%	228,000	22,800
École de technologie supérieure	67%	106,000	17,667	67%	287,000	28,700	38%	96,000	19,200
École Polytechnique	*	*	*	82%	1,095,000	30,417	57%	88,620	22,155
Guelph	44%	94,000	23,500	76%	1,667,000	34,729	16%	183,000	36,600
HEC Montréal	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
INRS	60%	77,000	25,667	73%	414,000	37,636	50%	153,000	38,250
Lakehead	*	*	*	40%	117,000	19,500	0%	0	0
Laurentian	*	*	*	57%	109,000	27,250	16%	52,763	17,588
Laval	45%	266,000	26,600	72%	1,507,000	34,250	32%	471,400	33,671
Lethbridge	*	*	*	80%	248,000	31,000	43%	71,000	23,667
Manitoba	56%	78,000	15,600	61%	1,019,000	32,871	37%	445,000	26,176
McGill	63%	431,000	22,684	77%	3,236,000	39,463	50%	1,066,000	35,533
McMaster	36%	70,000	17,500	81%	2,138,808	38,193	25%	166,000	33,200
Memorial Univ. of Newfoundland	27%	91,000	22,750	59%	594,000	29,700	15%	102,000	25,500
Moncton	17%	27,000	27,000	57%	97,000	24,250	8%	20,000	20,000
Montréal	38%	178,000	29,667	80%	1,717,000	39,023	28%	423,000	32,538
Mount Allison	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
New Brunswick	*	*	*	74%	638,000	31,900	26%	92,000	18,400
Nipissing	*	*	*	*	*	*	29%	28,000	14,000
Northern British Columbia	*	*	*	54%	174,000	24,857	*	*	*
Ontario Institute of Technology	33%	38,000	19,000	100%	217,000	27,125	36%	99,000	24,750
Ottawa	67%	162,000	20,250	75%	1,598,850	33,309	31%	290,000	26,364
Prince Edward Island	*	*	*	90%	212,950	23,661	*	*	*
Québec à Chicoutimi	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Québec à Montréal	60%	51,000	17,000	87%	638,000	31,900	20%	94,000	31,333
Québec à Rimouski	*	*	*	60%	118,000	39,333	20%	24,000	24,000
Québec à Trois-Rivières	71%	123,000	24,600	25%	47,000	23,500	20%	67,000	22,333
Québec en Abitibi Témiscamingue	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Québec en Outaouais	*	*	*	50%	80,000	26,667	*	*	*
Queen's	50%	89,000	22,250	77%	1,753,885	43,847	59%	278,684	27,868
Regina	*	*	*	50%	193,000	24,125	33%	81,000	20,250
Royal Military College of Canada	42%	110,000	22,000	71%	139,000	27,800	6%	20,000	20,000
Ryerson	*	*	*	67%	392,000	24,500	24%	127,000	18,143
Saint Mary's	*	*	*	80%	192,000	48,000	40%	30,000	15,000
Saskatchewan	60%	175,000	19,444	74%	1,028,743	32,148	15%	177,000	25,286
Sherbrooke	77%	220,000	22,000	78%	836,000	33,440	33%	193,000	27,571
Simon Fraser	67%	114,000	28,500	72%	1,440,700	35,139	52%	302,000	21,571
St. Francis Xavier	*	*	*	33%	113,000	37,667	*	*	*
Thomson Rivers	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Toronto	65%	566,159	28,308	86%	4,586,482	40,951	45%	866,542	33,329
Trent	*	*	*	55%	240,000	40,000	20%	11,000	11,000
TRIUMF	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Victoria	50%	89,000	29,667	84%	1,220,000	32,105	50%	214,024	21,402
Waterloo	86%	367,000	20,389	76%	2,567,280	33,341	39%	361,000	30,083
Western Ontario	33%	61,000	20,333	74%	1,851,160	34,928	44%	593,000	31,211
Wilfrid Laurier	*	*	*	38%	156,000	26,000	40%	113,000	28,250
Windsor	*	*	*	63%	591,000	34,765	33%	160,000	22,857
Winnipeg	*	*	*	*	*	*	0%	0	0
York	*	*	*	70%	976,700	37,565	25%	178,000	29,667
Institutions with less than 5 applications	15%	36,000	18,000	44%	115,000	28,750	19%	49,000	16,333
Grand Total	54%	5,507,932	22,481	74%	48,206,932	35,045	33%	10,671,233	28,082

1. Includes Discovery and Subatomic Physics Individual and Team grants, but excludes Subatomic Physics Discovery Grants Projects.

* Less than 5 applications

Figure 1. Distribution of Grant Levels to Successful Applicants – 2011 Competition



Renewal Applicants

Figure 2. Change in Grant Level for All Established Researchers – 2011 Competition

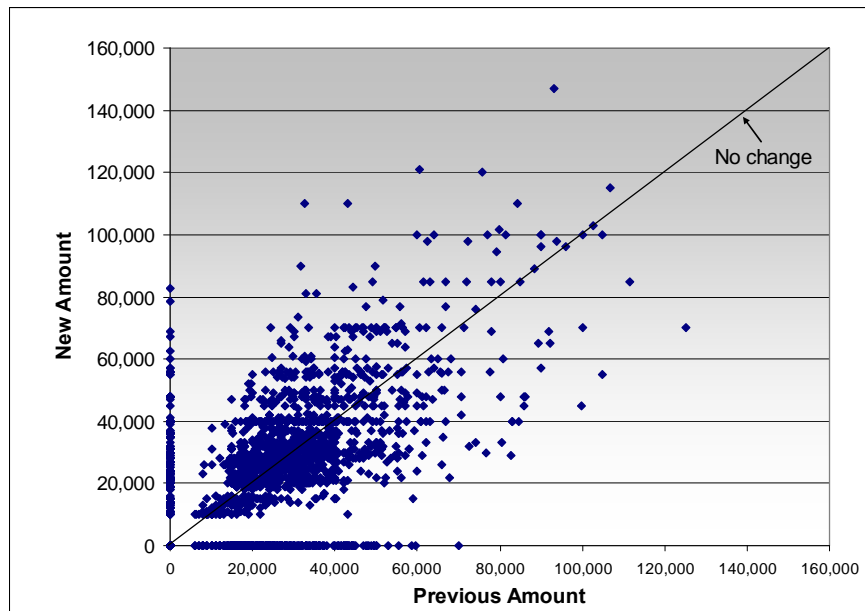
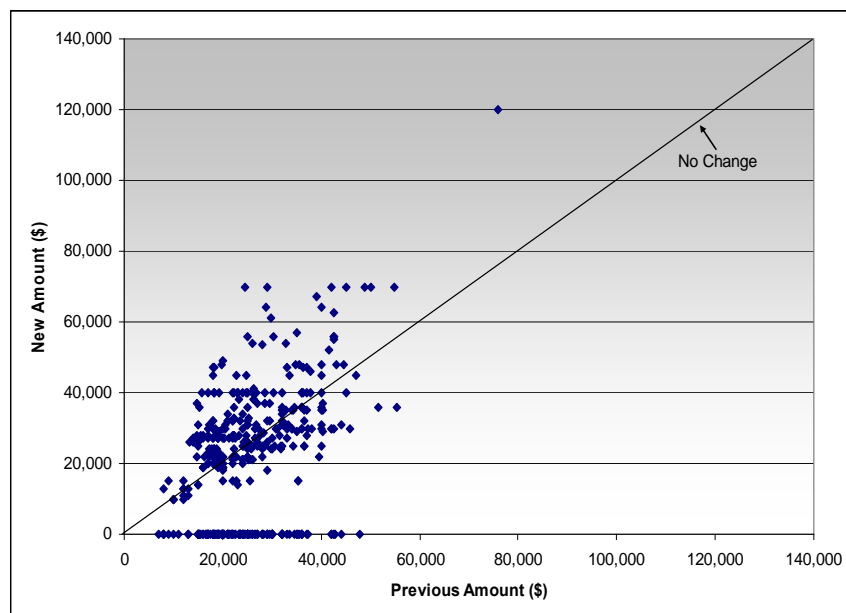


Figure 3 presents the changes in grant level for the subset of established researchers who submitted an application for the 1st renewal of their Discovery Grant.

Figure 3. Change in Grant Level for Established Researchers 1st Renewal – 2011 Competition

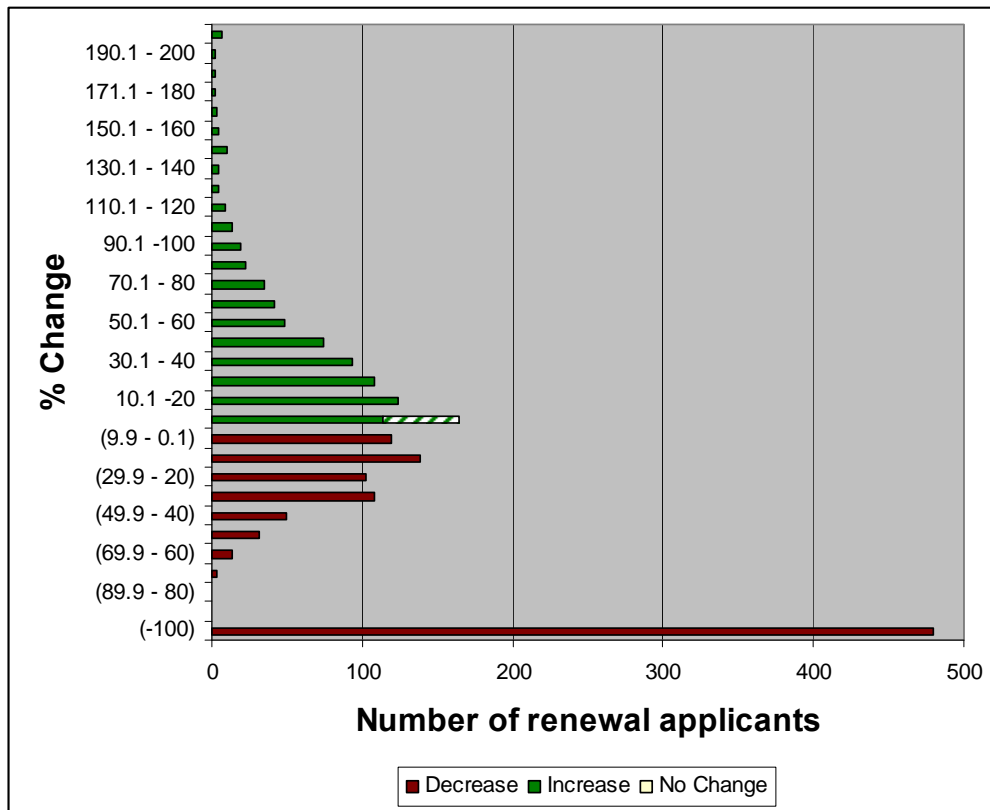


Renewal Applicants

Figure 4 shows the dynamic distribution of funds in 2011.

In 2011, 74 percent of renewal applicants received a grant; 483 of these Established Researchers were not successful.

Figure 4. Percentage Change in Grant Level – 2011 Competition



Statistics by Size of University

Figure 5. Statistics by University Size – 2011 Competition

Category of Applicants	Data	University Size		
		Large	Medium	Small
Early Career Researchers	Number Applications	301	71	85
	Number Grants	178	38	29
	Success Rate	59%	54%	34%
	Total Amount	\$4,108,159	\$799,000	\$600,773
	Average Grant	\$23,080	\$21,026	\$20,716
Established Researchers - Renewal	Number Applications	1413	300	145
	Number Grants	1096	199	81
	Success Rate	78%	66%	56%
	Total Amount	\$39,734,582	\$6,262,400	\$2,236,950
	Average Grant	\$36,254	\$31,469	\$27,617
Established Researchers - Not Holding Grants	Number Applications	769	220	178
	Number Grants	290	58	33
	Success Rate	38%	26%	19%
	Total Amount	\$8,491,470	\$1,361,000	\$841,763
	Average Grant	\$29,281	\$23,466	\$25,508

SECTION 2 – STATISTICS BY EVALUATION GROUP (EG)

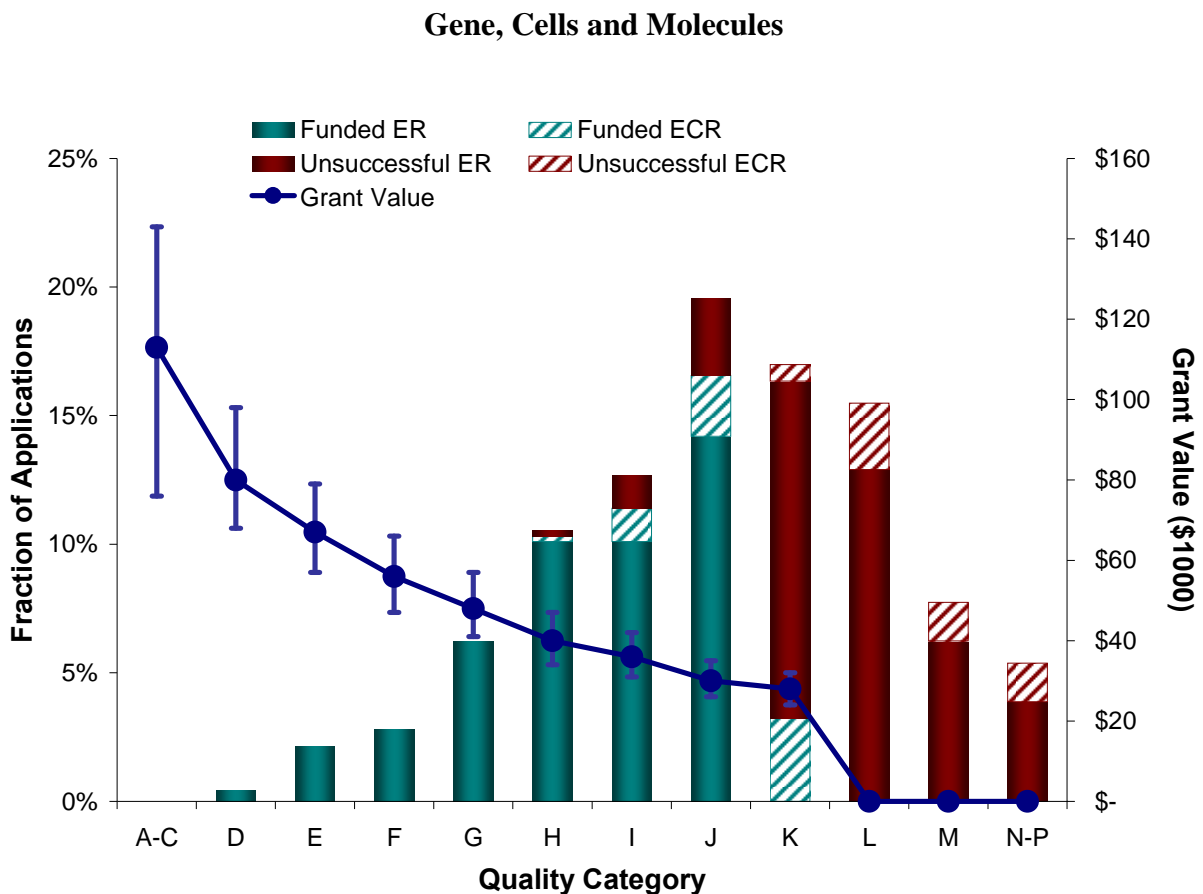
Table 3. Evaluation Group Statistics – 2011 Competition

Genes, Cells and Molecules	Early Career Researchers	Established Researchers	
		Renewals	Other
Number of Applications	62	181	222
Number of Awards	33	118	96
Success Rate	53%	65%	43%
Average Grant	30,606	40,719	38,025
Amount awarded	\$1,010,000	\$4,804,829	\$3,650,400
Biological Systems and Functions	Early Career Researchers	Established Researchers	
		Renewals	Other
Number of Applications	97	245	207
Number of Awards	32	189	61
Success Rate	33%	77%	29%
Average Grant	26,810	39,965	28,406
Amount awarded	\$857,932	\$7,553,390	\$1,732,748
Evolution and Ecology	Early Career Researchers	Established Researchers	
		Renewals	Other
Number of Applications	28	118	52
Number of Awards	14	87	6
Success Rate	50%	74%	12%
Average Grant	24,000	39,583	27,833
Amount awarded	\$336,000	\$3,443,700	\$167,000
Chemistry	Early Career Researchers	Established Researchers	
		Renewals	Other
Number of Applications	28	141	85
Number of Awards	21	91	14
Success Rate	75%	65%	16%
Average Grant	24,333	58,401	38,259
Amount awarded	\$511,000	\$5,314,500	\$535,620
Physics*	Early Career Researchers	Established Researchers	
		Renewals	Other
Number of Applications	33	146	61
Number of Awards	21	118	29
Success Rate	64%	81%	48%
Average Grant	30,381	37,722	31,332
Amount awarded	\$638,000	\$4,451,150	\$908,622
* Includes Subatomic Physics Discovery Individual and Group, but not Projects			

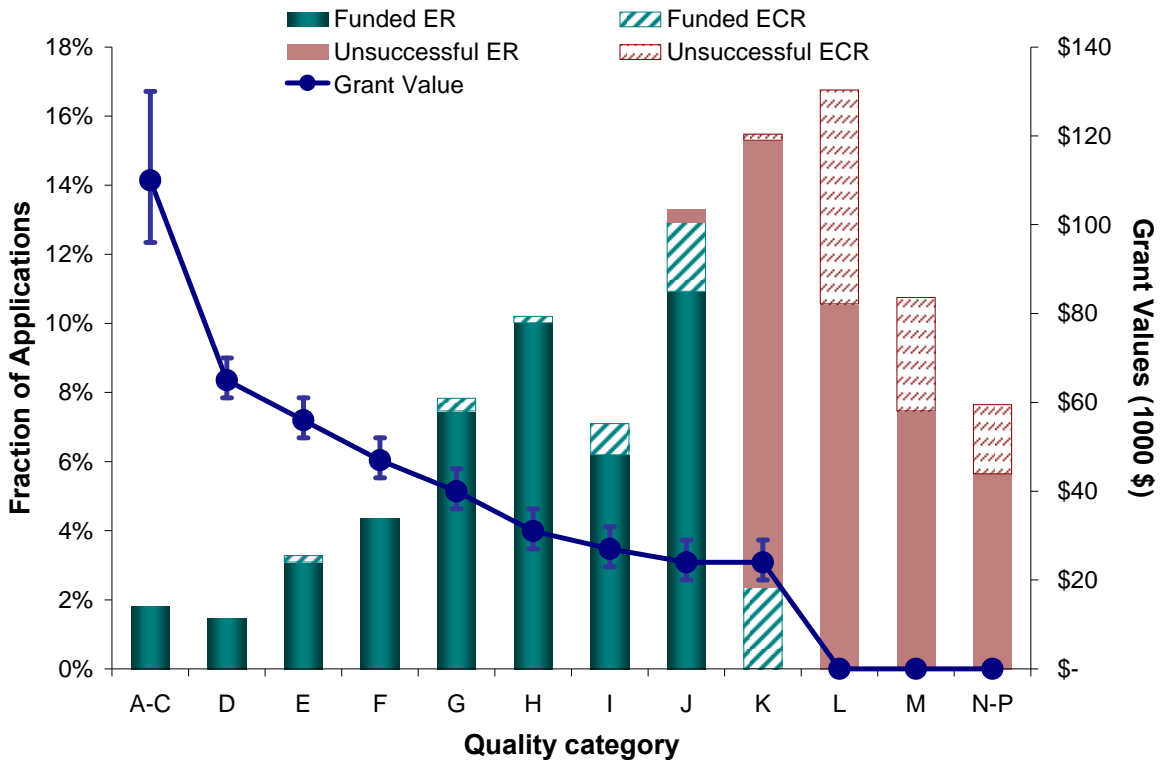
Geosciences	Early Career Researchers	Established Researchers	
		Renewals	Other
Number of Applications	31	129	68
Number of Awards	14	95	21
Success Rate	45%	74%	31%
Average Grant	21,071	32,621	23,994
Amount awarded	\$295,000	\$3,099,000	\$503,880
Computer Science	Early Career Researchers	Established Researchers	
		Renewals	Other
Number of Applications	31	168	97
Number of Awards	25	141	36
Success Rate	81%	84%	37%
Average Grant	20,960	28,571	15,944
Amount awarded	\$524,000	\$4,028,543	\$574,000
Mathematics and Statistics	Early Career Researchers	Established Researchers	
		Renewals	Other
Number of Applications	28	165	78
Number of Awards	19	130	30
Success Rate	68%	79%	38%
Average Grant	11,368	18,331	13,600
Amount awarded	\$216,000	\$2,383,000	\$408,000
Civil, Industrial and Systems Engineering	Early Career Researchers	Established Researchers	
		Renewals	Other
Number of Applications	64	144	96
Number of Awards	34	108	36
Success Rate	53%	75%	38%
Average Grant	18,706	26,380	20,160
Amount awarded	\$636,000	\$2,849,000	\$725,763
Electrical and Computer Engineering	Early Career Researchers	Established Researchers	
		Renewals	Other
Number of Applications	21	172	76
Number of Awards	15	119	16
Success Rate	71%	69%	21%
Average Grant	23,733	36,738	27,325
Amount awarded	\$356,000	\$4,371,820	\$437,200

Materials and Chemical Engineering	Early Career Researchers	Established Researchers	
		Renewals	Other
Number of Applications	24	109	54
Number of Awards	16	81	13
Success Rate	67%	74%	24%
Average Grant	21,063	36,667	23,077
Amount awarded	\$337,000	\$2,970,000	\$300,000
Mechanical Engineering	Early Career Researchers	Established Researchers	
		Renewals	Other
Number of Applications	26	130	67
Number of Awards	15	89	18
Success Rate	58%	68%	27%
Average Grant	19,600	30,876	24,556
Amount awarded	\$294,000	\$2,748,000	\$442,000

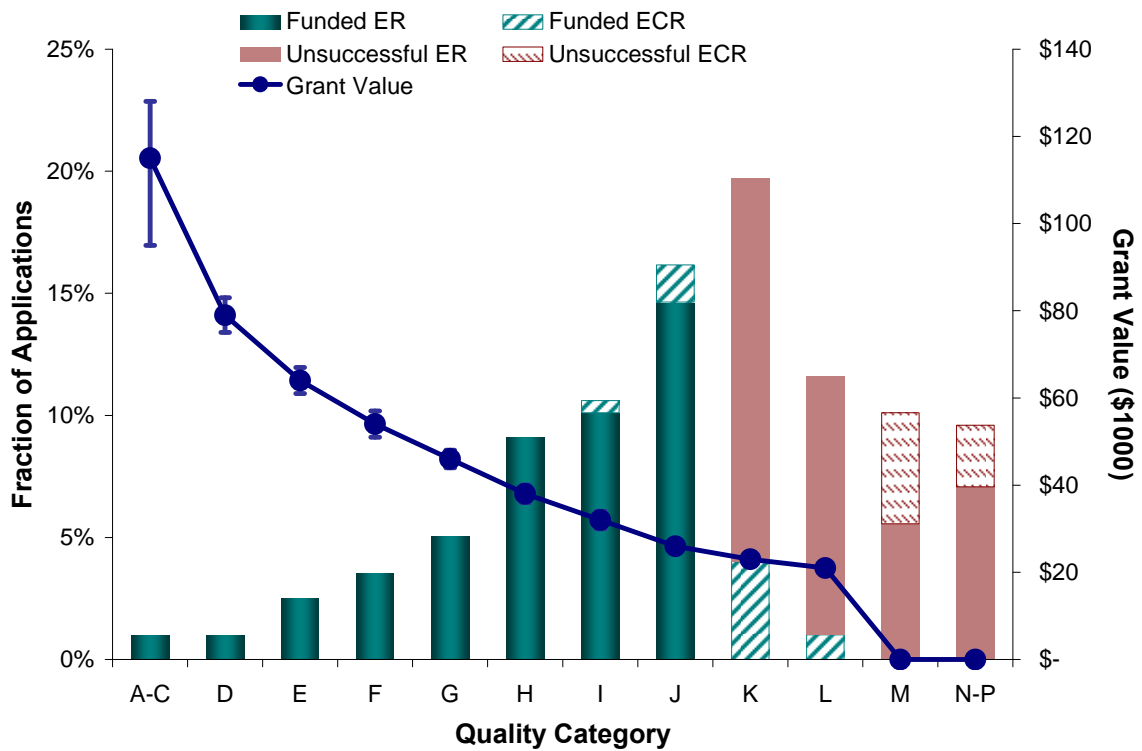
Figure 6. Distribution of Applications by Quality Categories for each Evaluation Group – 2011 Competition



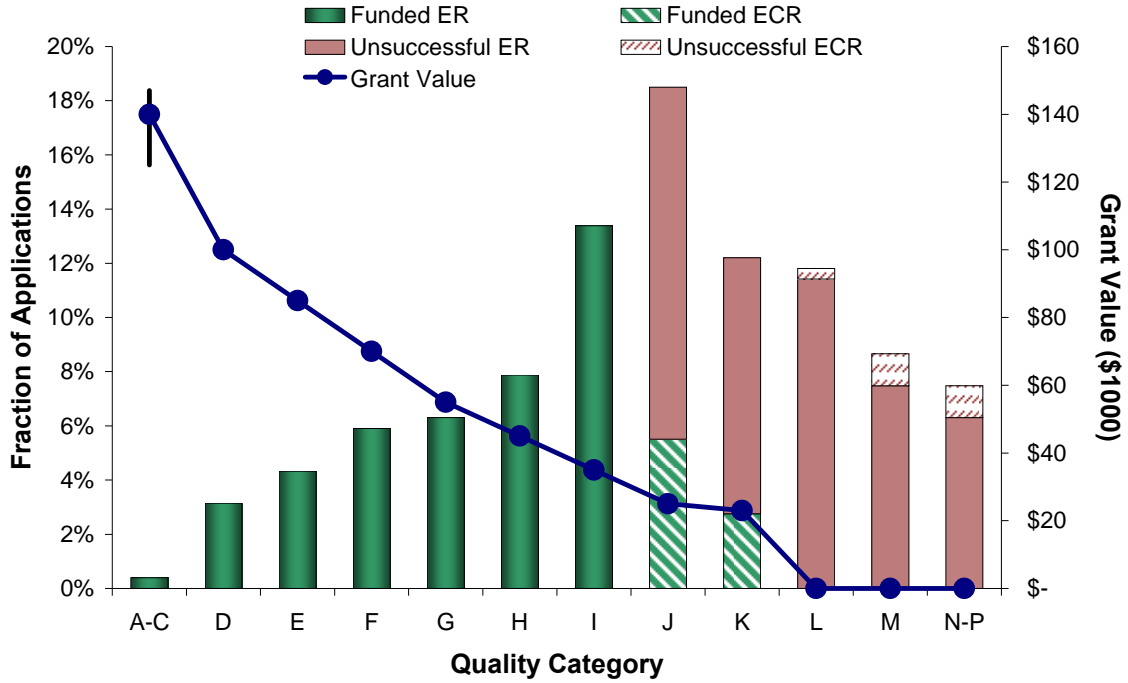
Biological Systems and Functions



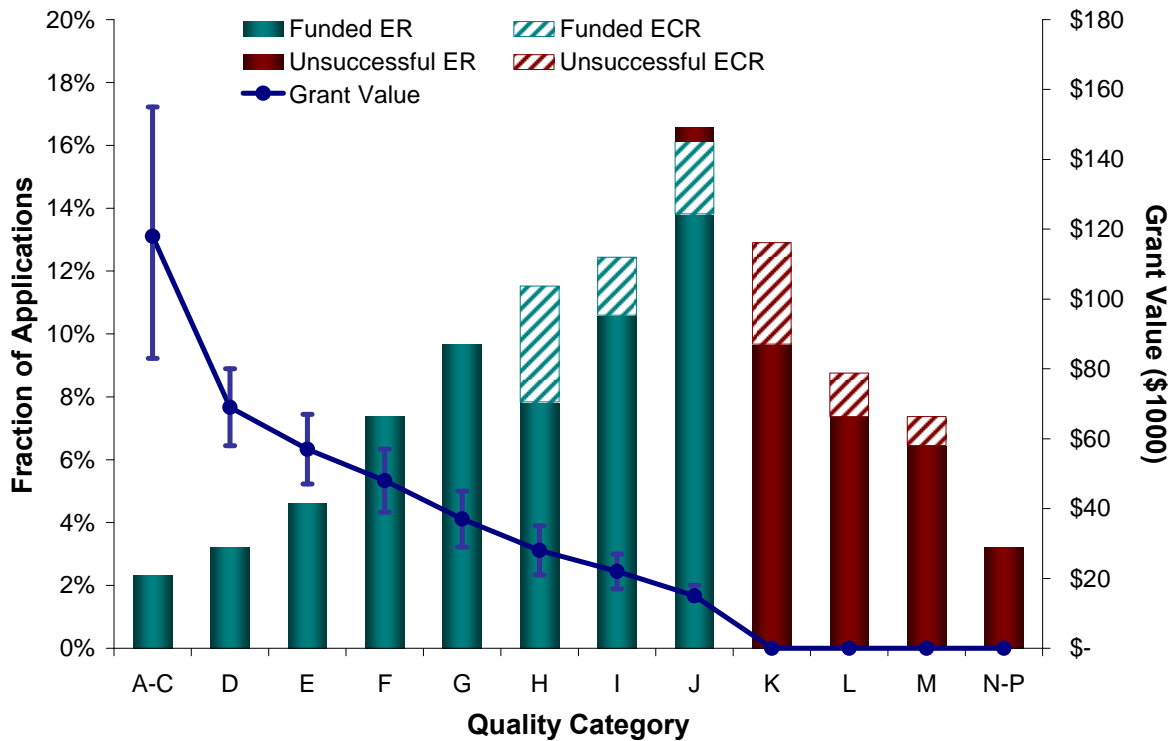
Evolution and Ecology



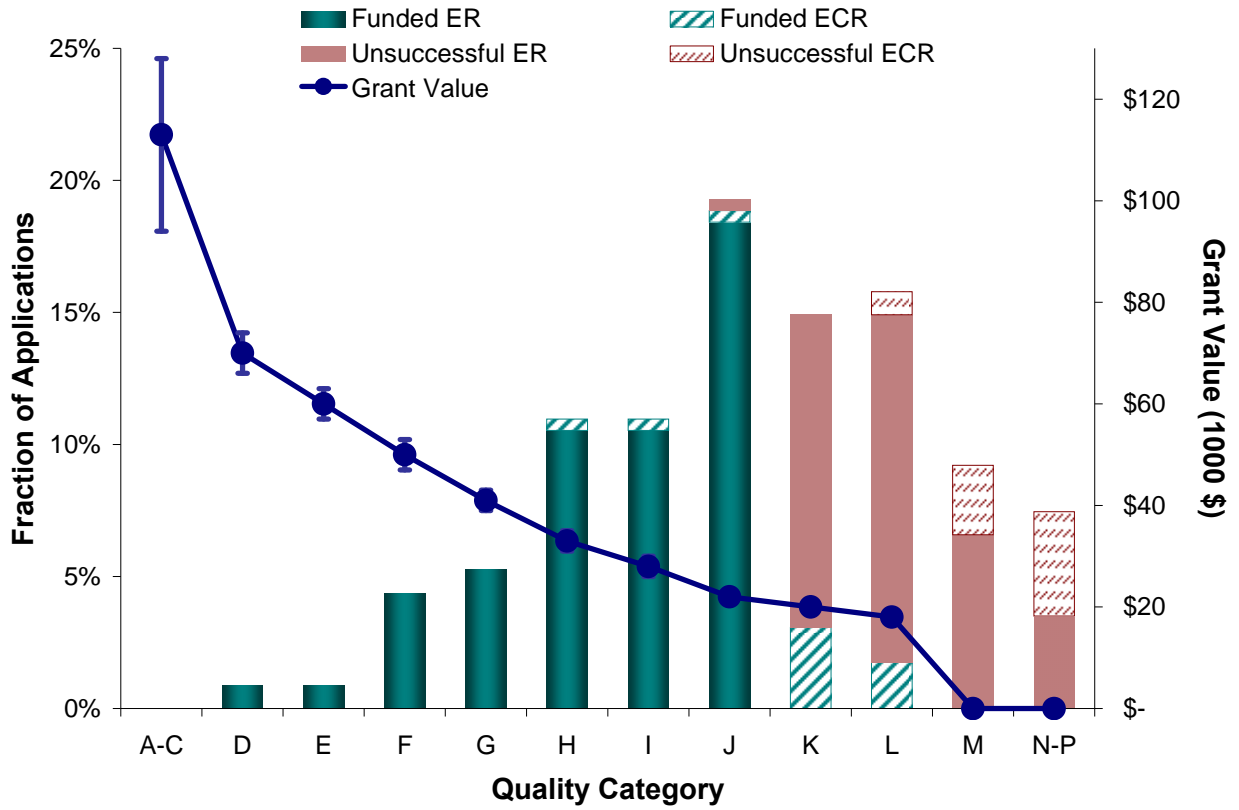
Chemistry



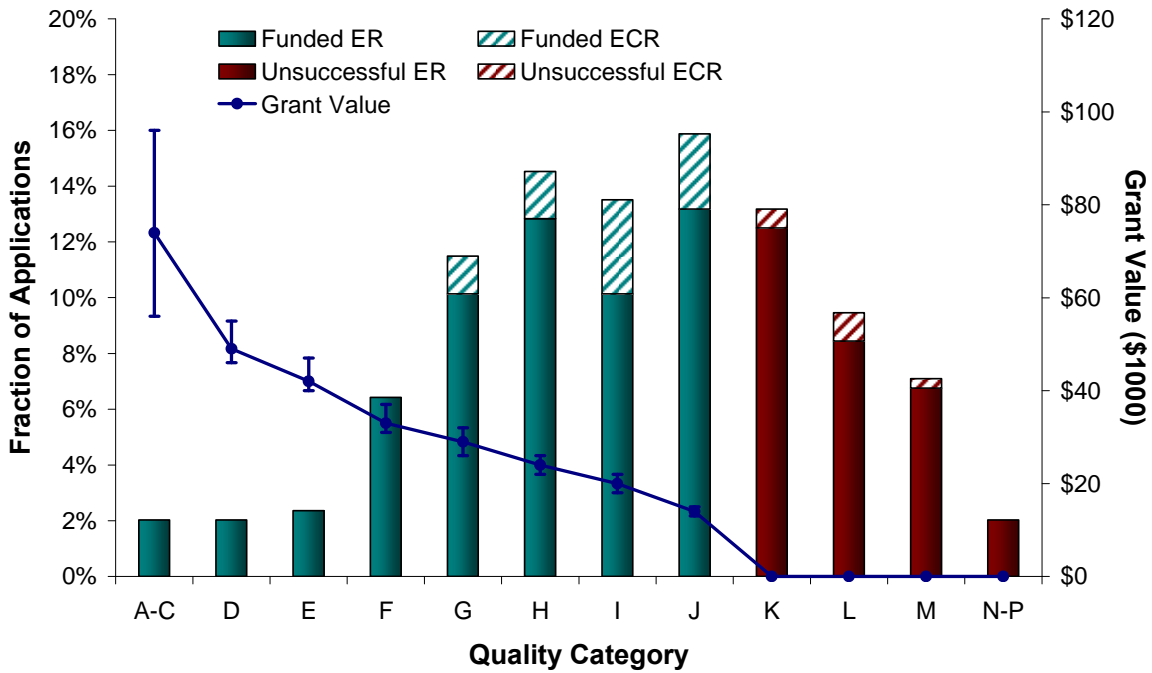
Physics (excluding Subatomic Physics)



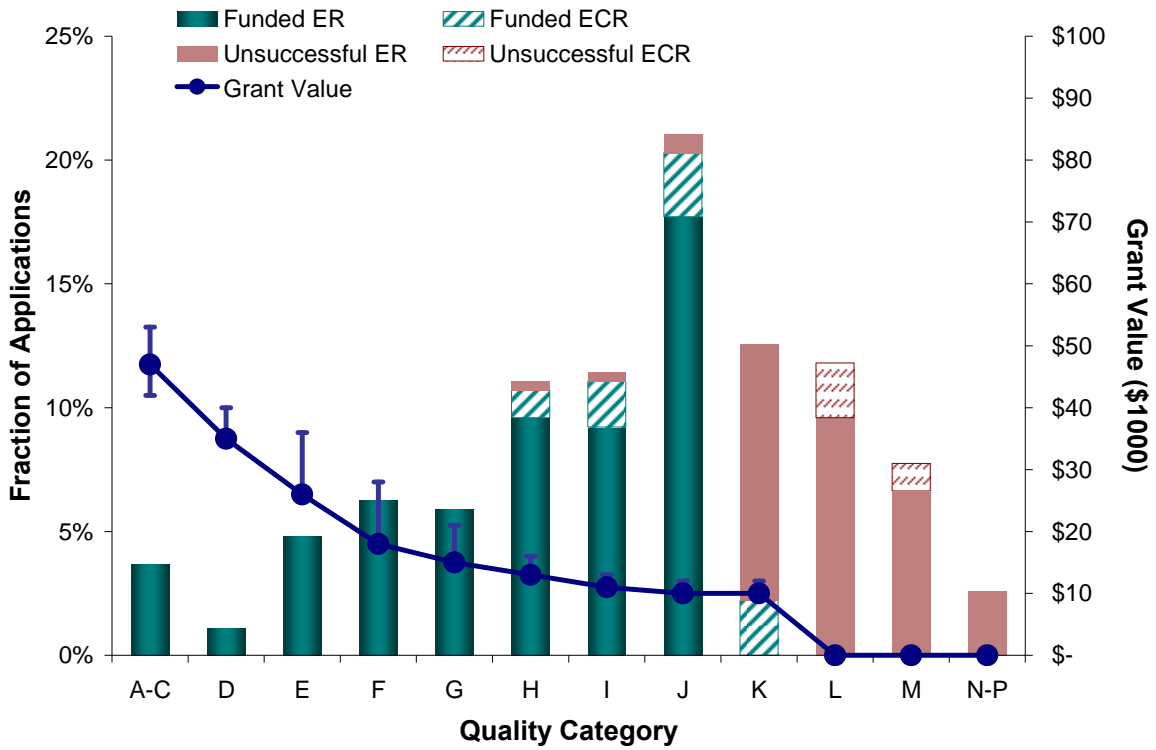
Geoscience



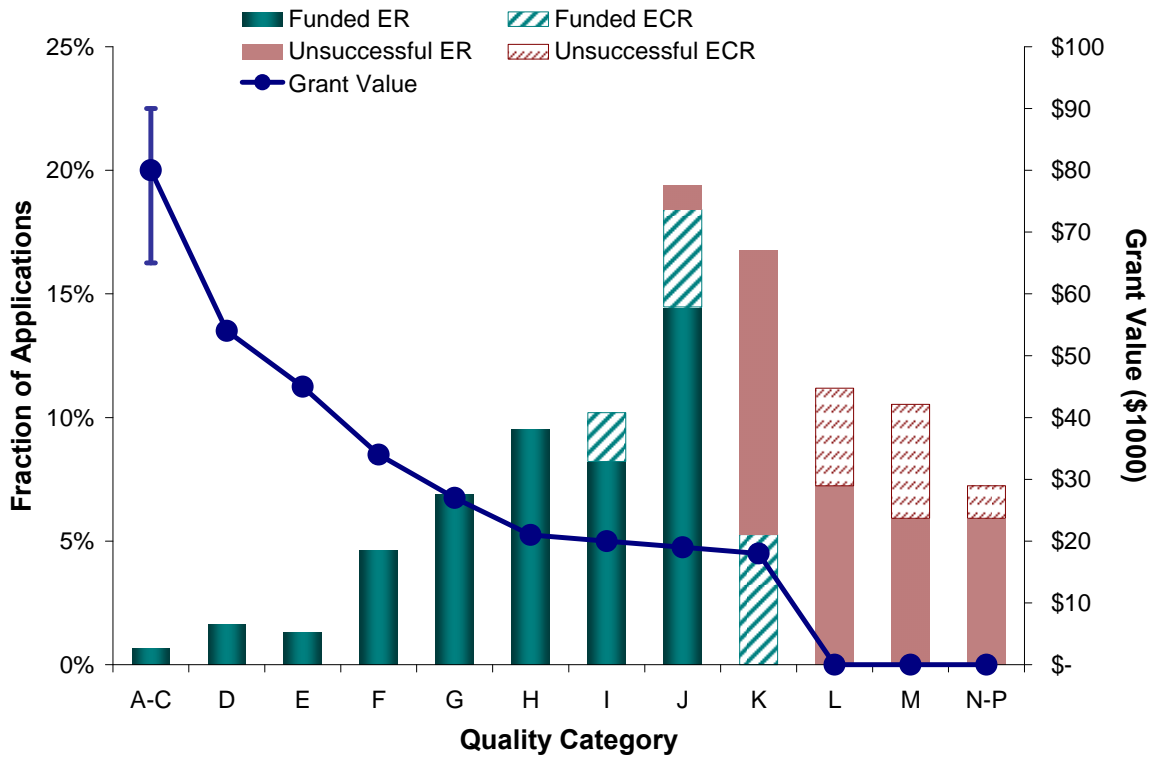
Computer Science



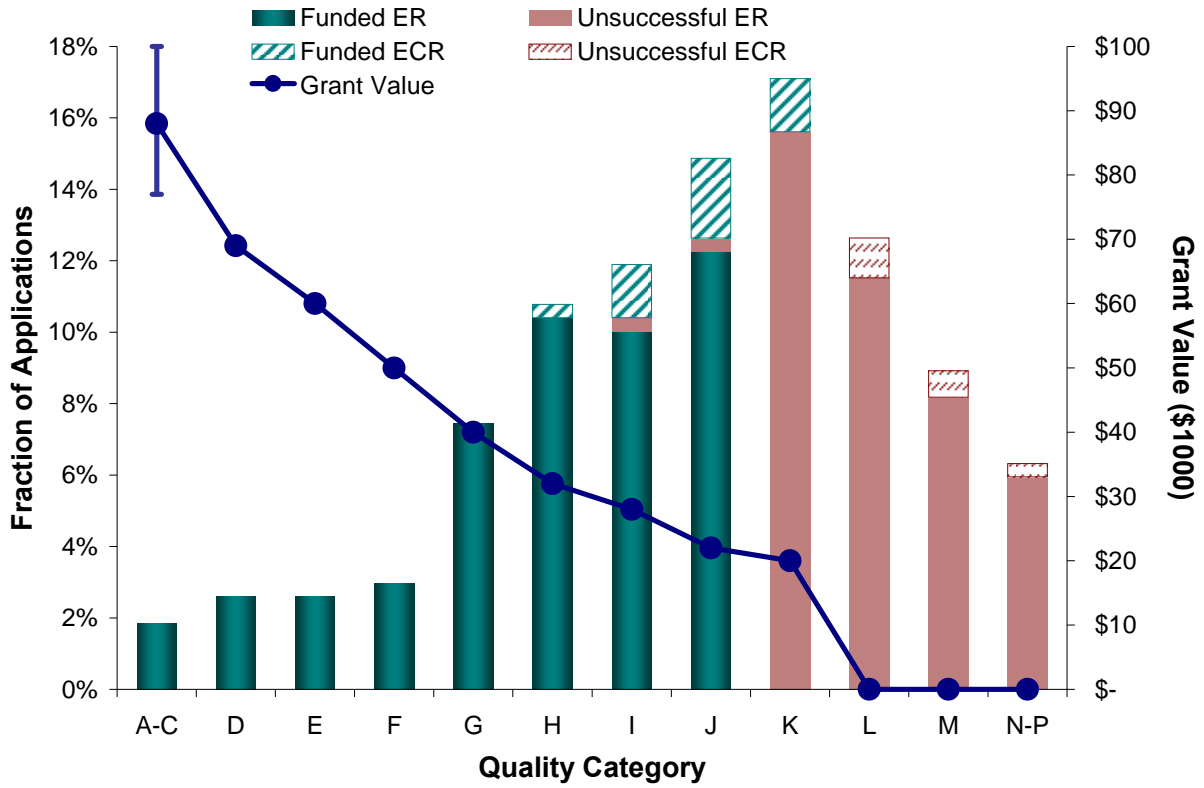
Mathematics and Statistics



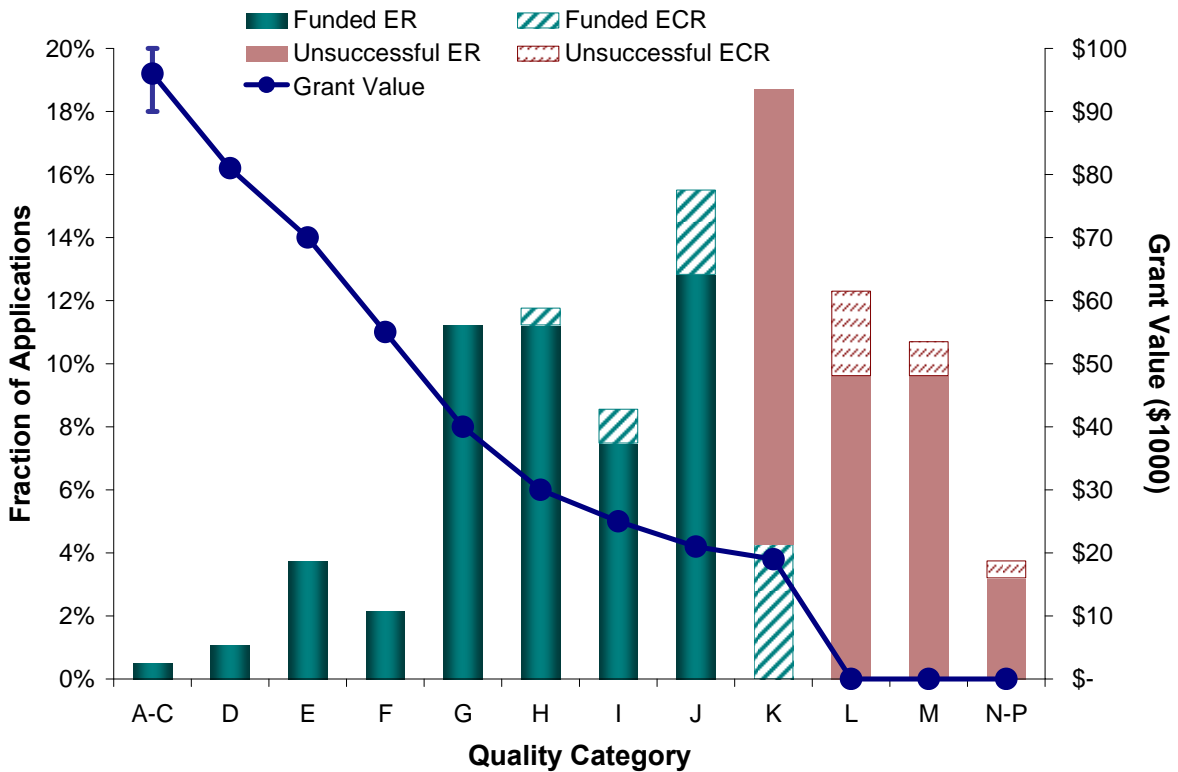
Civil, Industrial and Systems Engineering



Electrical and Computer Engineering



Materials and Chemical Engineering



Mechanical Engineering

