The Cycle 15 Preliminary Review has concluded. With the conclusion of regular submissions and preliminary review, it is clear that the heightened interest in building on Optimism has been sustained throughout Season 4. The Council received 306 total Experiments and Builders proposals in Season 4, 104 in Cycle 15.

The future is Optimistic.

This Cycle, we want to take a moment to appreciate the quality of the community building on Optimism. We have seen strong engagement from builders and community members and, as a result, we continue to see proposers increase the quality of what they propose. We believe we are seeing a virtuous cycle take hold: high expectations bring great builders who then attract more great builders and community members to the Optimism ecosystem. We appreciate all of the engagement and hope the trend continues.

This Cycle, the Council will complete its review of eight published Requests for Grants (RFGs). We have seen more than 30 new RFG proposals so far this Cycle. If you are planning to submit an RFG, please make sure it is submitted on CharmVerse before 19:00 GMT on September 14.

Here is the list of projects that will be reviewed for the Cycle 15 Final Review:

Experiments

- Beefy
- DRPC
- Gyroscope
- Immunefi
- Kwenta
- Lemon Cash
- Lyra V2
- OAT Subsidization
- The Optimist
- Velodrome

Builders

- Africa Founder Residency
- Anchain
- Autonomous World
- Brazilian Dev
- Breadcrumbs
- Copilot
- Cryptofonts
- EcofuseAl
- Frontier Registry
- Harberger
- Hedgehog
- Infinity Wallet
- Inheriti
- MultiBaas
- Nata Social
- Ocean Protocol

- Onchain Firewalls
- Optimism Fractal
- Reputation & Roles
- Scalind
- Soldeer
- Station Labs
- Superchain Resolver
- viaPrize

Cycle 15 Preliminary Roundup

Of the 104 proposals received for Cycle 14:

- 54 were for Builders Grants, and
- 50 were for for Experiments Grants

Of the initial proposals:

- 51 proposals passed Intake Filter for Builders (~94% pass rate)
- 29 proposals passed Intake Filter for Experiments (~58% pass rate);

Cycle 15 saw Builders proposals overtake Experiments proposals again. This is exciting from the lens of the goal of Intent 2, which is to focus on Innovating on Novel Applications. The Council is hopeful that the heightened Builders interest will lead to the development of strong applications for the community. The difference in the pass rate between the two Sub-Committees is indicative of the higher bar presented by the no-sale rule in Experiments as well as a number of proposals that were incomplete or underdeveloped.

The percentage of projects that passed the Intake Filter and have passed to the Final Review has decreased to ~43% from 50% in Cycle 10. This is the result of a more selective round for Experiments and the increased Intake Filter passage rate for Builders projects.

Requests for Grants (RFGs)

The Grants Council has published eight Requests for Grants (RFGs) for Season 4. The Council will announce the results of the RFGs at the end of Cycle 15.

- Onchain Data
- UI for Contracts
- Smart Contract Auditing Services
- Smart Contract Auditing Tools
- RPC Subsidization
- Optimism Academics
- Tooling for 6551 Tokenbound Accounts
- Cross-chain Interoperability Research

The Council looks forward to reviewing the remainder of the Cycle 15 proposals and thanks all proposers for taking the time to submit their proposals and engage in the process.