General Fund Application Guidelines

Thank you for your interest in AlgoGators. Please see below for information on our application process and resources/guidelines. Please visit our website for additional information.

[1] Pitch Submission Criteria

The application is your opportunity to showcase a systematic trading strategy that a quant hedge fund would find compelling. Consider strategies that apply across asset classes and markets, and remember, this is not a venue for single-stock analysis or individual trade ideas. Examples include, but are not limited to, trend-following, mean-reversion, relative value/spread, arbitrage, momentum, etc.

- ***Core Concept:*** Clearly articulate the main idea behind your systematic trading strategy.
- ***Economic Rationale:*** Define the economic hypothesis driving your strategy and support it with a logical argument.
- ***Detailed Implementation:*** Explain how you will execute the strategy, from signal generation to trade execution and everything in between.
- ***Risk Assessment:*** Outline the risks involved and how your strategy plans to mitigate them.
- ***Capital and Liquidity:*** Discuss the liquidity implications and capital capacity of your strategy.
- ***Analytical Evidence:*** Provide analysis demonstrating the expected performance and risk profile of your strategy, supported by historical data simulation or alternative analytical methods if direct simulation is not feasible.

Submissions should be concise, with approximately 2 - 3 pages of written content and up to 1 additional page for tables and charts. If you encounter any issues with submission, please reach out to *Patrick Bott at pbott@ufl.edu*.

Evaluation Guidelines

Economic Foundation: The strategy should be built upon a solid economic hypothesis, with logical underpinnings indicating why it's expected to succeed.

Innovation: The strategy must stand out for its ingenuity, differing significantly from commonplace investment strategies.

Alpha Generation: If the economic hypothesis is valid, the implementation should be designed to yield alpha, demonstrating profitability potential.

Risk Management Plan: A detailed plan for mitigating the risks inherent in the strategy, including contingencies for when the economic hypothesis does not hold true.

Liquidity and Capital Analysis: The proposal should provide a thorough examination of liquidity and capital deployment capabilities, without bias toward more or less liquid strategies.

Performance Analysis: It should employ proper methodologies to evaluate the strategy's prospects, with qualitative or quantitative evidence supporting its feasibility.

---

[2] Interview Processes

Upon reviewing the applications, the Portfolio Managers of AlgoGators Investment Fund will invite standout candidates for final interviews. These discussions will delve into both behavioral and technical aspects, tailored to each candidate's level of experience and the specifics of their submitted systematic trading strategy.

Interviews are designed to probe the depth of candidates' understanding of quantitative analysis and their ability to develop a rules-based trading system. We aim to gauge the practicality of their approach and the robustness of their risk management strategies. These interviews will lay the foundation for our decision-making process for the incoming class of quantitative analysts. In any given candidate, our team looks for:

Acumen for Quantitative Analysis:

A strong curiosity and an analytical mindset towards the futures markets and quantitative investing.

Team Synergy:

A collaborative spirit, eager to contribute to and grow with a team dedicated to innovative financial research.

Strategic Communication:

The ability to clearly convey complex strategies and foster discussions that drive our collective thinking forward.

Innovative Strategy Design:

A talent for creating data-driven trading strategies that can be translated into effective algorithmic operations.

Additional Resources

Should you have any inquiries, feel free to reach out to Patrick Bott at pbott@ufl.edu.