



Evidence-based Programs



Why shift approach?



- The President has made it clear that policy decisions should be driven by evidence
 - Evidence about what works and what does not
 - Evidence that identifies the greatest needs and opportunities to solve great challenges
- By instilling a culture of learning into Federal programs, the Administration will build knowledge so that spending decisions more often yield the highest social returns on carefully targeted investments

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2015/assets/management.pdf>

Evidence-based Programs

- Programs are rigorously studied and study results are used to establish causal impact of program on beneficiaries
- Programs will include specific implementation procedures, manuals, and cost

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2015/assets/management.pdf>

Implementation Considerations

Benefits of Evidence-based Programs

- Proven model more likely to work
- Easy to use and replicate
- Greater opportunity to secure funding from a variety of sources
- Efficient use of resources

Implementation Considerations

Cautions to Evidence-based Programs for Providers

- Limited adaptability
- Cost
- Planning

Example



- Evidence-based programs tend to contain a defined set of essential components
- For example, an academic achievement program may include:
 - Five 30-minute lessons that cover one of five specific themes
 - Sessions conducted with a group of four to six elementary school students
 - Service activities occurring in a separate classroom during the school day
 - Service activities being delivered in a specific sequence of stages

Adapted from: http://www.nrepp.samhsa.gov/courses/Implementations/resources/imp_course.pdf

Fidelity



- Fidelity refers to implementing an evidence-based program according to its original, tested design

Implementing an Evidence-based Program

- **Identifying your community's needs** to determine the type of program that will be most appropriate
- **Assessing your organizational capacity** including financial resources, organizational commitment, and community buy-in to determine your ability to implement a program with fidelity
- **Searching program registries** to select a program that matches your community needs, your organization's available resources, and available programs
- **Understanding program fidelity and program adaptation**

http://www.nrepp.samhsa.gov/courses/Implementations/resources/imp_course.pdf

Incorporating Evidence-based Programs

Two ways:

- An organization can conduct a rigorous evaluation of its own project design to establish an evidence basis for its program

Or –

- An organization can identify and implement a packaged evidence-based program

New RSVP Provisions



- Year 1: For every \$1,250 in annual base federal funding, at least one unduplicated RSVP volunteer must be placed in work plans that:
 - Result in National Performance Measure outcomes in a combination of any of the focus areas and/or Capacity Building Measures; or
 - Engage volunteers in an evidence-based program that results in a National Performance Measure output in health education programming. (Evidence-based, see Appendix C)

New RSVP Provisions Cont'd.

- Year 2 and 3: For every \$1,000 in annual base federal funding, at least one unduplicated RSVP volunteer must be placed in work plans that:
 - Result in National Performance Measure outcomes in a combination of any of the focus areas and/or Capacity Building Measures; or
 - Engage volunteers in an evidence-based program that results in a National Performance Measure output in health education programming. (Evidence-based, see Appendix C)

New FGP and SCP Provisions

- For every \$6,000 in annual base federal funding, at least one Volunteer Service Year worth of service must be placed in work plans that:
 - FGP: Result in National Performance Measure outcomes in the Education focus area
 - SCP: Result in National Performance Measure outcomes in the Healthy Futures Independent Living focus area

New RSVP, FGP, and SCP Provisions

- New applicants and Renewing incumbents proposing use of evidence-based programs may be eligible for a higher level of federal funding per volunteer or VSY
- Applicants must provide documentation of how a higher level of funding supports implementation of evidence-based programs (Evidence-based, see Appendix C)

New RSVP, FGP, and SCP Provisions Cont'd.

- There is no guarantee of availability of additional funding to support evidence-based programs
- Final amount to be awarded may be less than amount requested, but will not be higher than amount requested in application
- Applicants should check current Notice of Funding Availability or Invitation to Apply for maximum amount that can be requested when proposing to implement an evidence-based program

Appendix C



- In the “Other” section of the Narrative field, applicant should provide:
 - Name of proposed evidence-based program and name of federal repository or clearinghouse on which it is listed
 - Description of proposed evidence-based program detailing how applicant plans to replicate it and maintain fidelity to the program model; applicant should explain:
 - Any planned modifications to program design
 - Ways in which those modifications may impact results
 - How changes made to the model will influence its ability to maintain its ranking corresponding to the requirements listed (in Appendix C)
 - Description of context and population of evaluations that support evidence-based program and how results of those evaluations are applicable to applicant’s proposed geographic service area and target population

Evidence-based Programs in Work Plans

K-12 success	ED2. Number of students that completed participation in CNCS-supported K-12 education programs.	Tutoring-Public School; Tutoring-Faith-Based School; Tutoring-Other	ED5. Number of students with improved academic performance in literacy and/or math.
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Evidence-based Programs in Work Plans

Access to Care	H4. Number of clients participating in health education programs.	Training; Coaching; Leading or Assisting Bone Builders; Matter of Balance Chronic Disease Self-Management Program Other ACL Sponsored Prevention Programs	None
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External Evaluation



Reviewers will have demonstrated expertise in:

- Developing and implementing evidence-based programs
- Scaling or replicating successful evidence-based programs
- Assessing applications



- Questions?