

Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA): Evidence and Evaluation Resources List

July 2023

The U.S. Department of Labor (U.S. DOL) has established expectations that states use evaluation evidence to continually improve their RESEA programs. States are also expected to conduct studies to generate new evidence on their RESEA programs, particularly causal evidence that they and other states can use to demonstrate program effectiveness and refine RESEA programs to better serve individuals who are receiving Unemployment Compensation (UC).

This document lists an array of resources that states can draw on to support their efforts to grow their capacity, to use existing evaluation evidence, and to develop new evidence. The list is organized by resource type. Some resources are narrowly targeted to a single topic while others cover a multitude of topics. The Topical Index below can help quickly identify the resources that are most relevant to states' needs. Summaries and links to individual resources are hyperlinked. Click the resource code to jump directly to the selected resource. Or, scroll down to view all the resources. Evaluation technical assistance is also available to states by contacting the RESEA Helpline at resea@abtassoc.com.

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E – Existing sources of research evidence; K – Key websites; P – U.S. DOL policies, guidance, and standards; T – Tools and toolkits; W – Webinars



Sources to find existing research evidence

- E1) **Clearinghouse for Labor Evaluation and Research (CLEAR)** is the U.S. Department of Labor's central and trusted source of evidence on labor-related interventions and innovations (<https://clear.dol.gov/>). CLEAR conducts comprehensive, transparent evidence reviews across various labor topics, and makes them accessible to inform practitioner and policymaker decisions. CLEAR has many resources that will be useful to states implementing and building evidence about RESEA programs; these specific resources are linked to throughout this document. You can also search across CLEAR's database of over 1100 studies at: <https://clear.dol.gov/study-database>.
- E2) **CLEAR's RESEA page:** This page provides CLEAR's ratings of reemployment interventions relevant to RESEA and links to studies of interventions designed to promote faster reemployment of unemployment insurance (UI) claimants. <https://clear.dol.gov/reemployment-services-and-eligibility-assessments-resea>
- E3) **CLEAR's Job Search Assistance topic area:** This topic area includes reviews of studies examining the effectiveness of job search assistance interventions which aim to improve participants' employment and earnings outcomes. <https://clear.dol.gov/topic-area/job-search-assistance>

Key websites with collections of resources

- K1) **DOL's Chief Evaluation Office (DOL CEO)** manages and implements the Department of Labor's (DOL's) evaluation program (<https://www.dol.gov/asp/evaluation/>). In its work, DOL CEO has drafted guiding policies and compiled resources on a range of evaluation issues.
- K2) **WorkforceGPS** is an online repository of technical assistance resources for the public workforce system. The Evaluation and Research Hub (<https://evalhub.workforcegps.org/>) gives workforce staff access to evaluation resources and peer learning activities that help them integrate evaluation into their program operations.

WorkforceGPS also provides access to a range of self-paced training modules designed to improve the public workforce systems' capacity to serve customers and improve program performance. To access trainings, visit <https://www.workforcegps.org/online-training>.
- K3) **Public Use Data:** <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/oasp/evaluation/PublicUseData>
"Public use data" are files prepared by data suppliers with the intent of making them open to the public. On this site, states can find data files compiled through previous evaluations, surveys, programs, and more.
- K4) **Examples of existing reports:** <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/oasp/evaluation/completedstudies>
This page contains completed reports from DOL-funded programs and evaluations. It may be useful both as a source of evidence and as a source of examples of how to write research reports.

U.S. DOL policies, guidance, and standards

- P1) **U.S. DOL Evaluation Policy:** <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/oasp/evaluation/EvaluationPolicy>
This evaluation policy statement presents key principles that govern U.S. DOL's planning, conduct, and use of program evaluations conducted by DOL or that use funds provided by U.S. DOL funds (including states' RESEA evaluations).
- P2) **UIPL 02-23:** <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/advisories/uipl-no-02-23>
and TEGL 8-22: <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/advisories/tegl-08-22> *Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Funding Allotments and Operating Guidance for Unemployment Insurance (UI) Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) Grants.*
- P3) **UIPL 10-22:** https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?DOCN=9998
and TEGL 5-21: https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?docn=3134 *Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Funding Allotments and Operating Guidance for Unemployment Insurance (UI) Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessments (RESEA) Grants.*
- P4) **UIPL 13-21:** <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/advisories/unemployment-insurance-program-letter-no-13-21> **and TEGL 12-20:** <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/advisories/training-and-employment-guidance-letter-no-12-20> *Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Funding Allotments and Operating Guidance for Unemployment Insurance (UI) Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessments (RESEA) Grants.*
- P5) **TEGL 06-19:** https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?DOCN=3619
and UIPL 01-20: https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?DOCN=6691 *Expectations for States Implementing the RESEA Program Requirements for Conducting Evaluations and Building Program Evidence.*
- P6) **CLEAR's standards for rating causal studies:** Standards used by U.S. DOL's Clearinghouse for Labor Evaluation and Research (CLEAR) to rate the credibility of causal studies.
<https://clear.dol.gov/reference-documents/causal-evidence-guidelines-version-21>
- P7) **CLEAR's RESEA intervention rating criteria:** These guidelines describe how CLEAR rates evidence of reemployment interventions' effectiveness. <https://clear.dol.gov/reference-documents/Guidelines-for-Rating-RESEA-Intervention-Effectiveness>
- P8) **CLEAR's guidelines for implementation studies:** This document provides the criteria used by CLEAR to assess studies of intervention implementation. <https://clear.dol.gov/reference-documents/clearinghouse-labor-evaluation-and-research-clear-guidelines-reviewing-0>

Tools and toolkits

- T1) **RESEA Evaluation Toolkit:** This toolkit provides details about each step in the process of planning and conducting an evaluation. It offers a general overview of evaluation elements for program management purposes and includes Appendices of tools and templates to support states designing and conducting evaluations, including:
- Logic Model Template
 - Tool to Identify Data Sources for RESEA Evaluations
 - Evaluation Timeline Overview and Worksheet
 - Designing and Launching a Random Assignment Evaluation
 - Sample Random Assignment Flowchart
 - Evaluation Design Report Template

The toolkit is designed for the use of both state RESEA staff and RESEA evaluators.

https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/OASP/evaluation/pdf/RESEA_Toolkit_February2021.pdf

- T2) **Evaluation Readiness Assessment Tool:** This tool will help states understand their readiness to conduct rigorous evaluations. <https://evalhub.workforcegps.org/resources/2018/09/07/19/45/Evaluation-Readiness-Assessment-Tool>
- T3) **Evaluation Design Assessment Tool:** This tool will help states assess the evaluability of their proposed intervention and understand operational considerations. <https://evalhub.workforcegps.org/resources/2018/09/07/19/53/Evaluation-Design-Assessment-Tool>
- T4) **RESEA Evaluation FAQs:** This tool contains responses to frequently asked evaluation related questions of a technical nature. <https://d2leuf3volid4d.cloudfront.net/-/media/C0761942FD8B4563A2C34ACF3E2EF00C.ashx?rev=7126382C944BA06D91E113C4D59EB54F>
- T5) **FY 2020 RESEA State Plan Plain Language Tool:** This tool supports states in completing and updating the evidence-based standards and evaluation requirements (elements 28a-28d) of their RESEA state plan. ([Download link](#). Document also found on https://rc.workforcegps.org/resources/2019/07/30/17/32/RESEA_Evaluation_Evidence_Resources)
- T6) **CLEAR Causal Evidence Plain Language Tool:** This tool supports states in their understanding and use of the CLEAR to inform RESEA program design. ([Download link](#), also found on https://rc.workforcegps.org/resources/2019/07/30/17/32/RESEA_Evaluation_Evidence_Resources)
- T7) **Sample Evaluation Requests for Proposals (RFPs):** This page provides an inventory of state RFPs that were used to help identify and select evaluators to support RESEA evidence-based requirements. ETA was not involved in the development of these RFPs, but is providing this inventory as a peer-sharing resource. https://rc.workforcegps.org/resources/2019/07/30/17/32/~/link.aspx?_id=C6849B15EF4049E9902CD2BA9A9BC9E7&z=z

Webinars

- W1) **How Does Evaluation Help My State and Where Do We Start?:** This webinar describes initial steps states can take to plan evaluations of their RESEA interventions. <https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2019/04/17/16/43/Evaluating-RESEA-How-Does-it-Help-My-State-and-Where-Do-We-Start>
- W2) **What Evaluation Details Do I Need to Plan for and How Long Will It Take?:** This webinar prepares states to plan evaluation activities from start to finish. Attendees will explore common activities at each stage of the evaluation. <https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2019/05/30/13/54/What-Evaluation-Details-Do-I-Need-for-a-Plan-and-How-Long-Will-It-Take>
- W3) **Which Evaluation Designs Are Right for My State?:** This webinar introduces states to a range of evaluation design types and describes what kinds of information can be learned from each type. <https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2019/05/07/13/07/What-Evaluation-Designs-Are-Right-For-My-State>
- W4) **Evaluation Strategies for States with Smaller RESEA Programs:** This webinar describes the likely evaluation challenges that states serving less than 15,000 claimants annually in their RESEA

programs and offers some strategies small states can use to approach impact evaluations.
<https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2020/10/21/13/48/Evaluation-Strategies-for-States-with-Smaller-RESEA-Programs>

- W5) **Procuring and Selecting an Evaluator:** This webinar provides an overview of procurement activities and elements to support states in selecting qualified, independent evaluators to conduct high quality evaluations.
<https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2019/05/30/14/24/Procuring-and-Selecting-an-Independent-Evaluator>
- W6) **Assessing Data for Evaluation:** This webinar discusses what information is needed for RESEA evaluations, how to identify data sources and access data, and how to assess data for completeness and integrity.
<https://d2leuf3vilid4d.cloudfront.net/MediaFiles/ws/rc/Folders/%7B472F42AA-E3FD-4A15-9CBC-C374AAA36CCB%7D/637822525643929442/index.htm?rev=>
- W7) **Considerations When Writing a Statement of Work for an Evaluation:** This webinar discusses important considerations for states writing a statement of work for their evaluation.
<https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2020/08/06/17/04/Contracting-with-an-Evaluator-for-your-RESEA-Evaluation>
- W8) **Accessing and Using Data for RESEA Evaluations:** This webinar reviews foundational concepts for accessing and using data for evaluations. The presenters focus on how to identify, access, and assess administrative data sources most relevant for Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) program evaluations.
<https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2020/11/17/19/30/Accessing-and-Using-Data-for-RESEA-Evaluations>
- W9) **De-Mystifying Random Assignment Designs for RESEA:** This session aims to increase states' familiarity and confidence with random assignment evaluation designs.
<https://d2leuf3vilid4d.cloudfront.net/MediaFiles/ws/rc/Folders/%7B472F42AA-E3FD-4A15-9CBC-C374AAA36CCB%7D/637822527035350762/index.htm?rev=>
- W10) **Evaluations Using Your Administrative Data: Quasi-Experimental Designs:** This webcast explores QEDs as impact evaluation, describes the use of administrative data to evaluate RESEA programs. <https://d2leuf3vilid4d.cloudfront.net/MediaFiles/ws/rc/Folders/%7B472F42AA-E3FD-4A15-9CBC-C374AAA36CCB%7D/637822532231407436/index.htm?rev=>
- W11) **Implementation Studies:** This webcast describes the value of implementation studies, how to use them to gain deeper insights into how your program is operating, how they can support impact evaluation and program improvement.
<https://d2leuf3vilid4d.cloudfront.net/MediaFiles/ws/rc/Folders/%7B472F42AA-E3FD-4A15-9CBC-C374AAA36CCB%7D/637822539064144217/index.htm?rev=>
- W12) **RESEA: Overview of Evaluation and Evidence Requirements:** This webinar is an overview of guidance and expectations regarding implementation of the RESEA program's evaluation and evidence requirements. <https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2019/10/22/15/22/RESEA-Overview-of-Evaluation-and-Evidence-Requirements>
- W13) **Using the Clearinghouse for Labor Evaluation and Research (CLEAR) - A Demonstration:** This session includes a demonstration of the CLEAR website functionalities and explains how CLEAR may be used to find evidence relevant to states' RESEA programs.

<https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2019/06/05/13/28/Using-the-Clearinghouse-for-Labor-Evaluation-and-Research-CLEAR-A-Demonstration>

- W14) **Findings from the REA Impact Study and Implications for State RESEA Evaluations:** This session describes the findings from the REA Impact Study and explores their implications for states' future RESEA evaluations. <https://d2leuf3volid4d.cloudfront.net/-/media/Global-Site/Content/Webcasts/2020/RESEA/Webcast-REA-Impact-Study-Findings-and-Implications-for-RESEA-Evaluations.ashx?rev=985e002bab604bb3acdba290e256cb08>
- W15) **Live Q&A: REA Impact Study Findings and Implications for State RESEA Evaluations:** This webcast provides a brief overview of the Reemployment and Eligibility Assessment (REA) Impact Study findings and their implications for Re-Employment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) programs and evaluations. <https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2020/09/14/19/08/Live-Q-amp-A-REA-Impact-Study-Findings-and-Implications-for-RESEA-Programs-and-Evaluations>
- W16) **RESEA Program Strategies: State and Local Implementation:** This webinar presents findings from a new study of how states' design and implementation of Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) programs vary nationwide. <https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2022/04/14/13/35/RESEA-Program-Strategies-State-and-Local-Implementation>
- W17) **RESEA Peer Learning:** During this webinar, attendees can hear lessons learned from peers about launching Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) evaluations from a panel of state RESEA administrators. <https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2022/06/15/17/48/RESEA-Peer-Learning>
- W18) **An Introduction to RESEA Component Evaluations:** This webinar will present an introduction to evaluations of Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessments (RESEA) program components. <https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2022/10/26/12/47/An-Introduction-to-RESEA-Component-Evaluations>
- W19) **Conducting Component Evaluations:** This webinar will present detailed information on evaluations of Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessments (RESEA) program components. <https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2022/11/21/17/16/Conducting-Component-Evaluations>
- W20) **Informed Use of Evidence for RESEA Evaluations:** This webinar will present detailed information on ways to successfully incorporate existing evidence into states' Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) programs. <https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2023/03/07/14/30/Informed-Use-of-Evidence-for-RESEA-Evaluations>
- W21) **Reporting RESEA Evaluation Findings:** This webinar will provide information to help states effectively report Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) evaluation findings. <https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2023/04/19/21/47/Reporting-RESEA-Evaluation-Findings>
- W22) **Understanding Participant Experience: RESEA Evaluation Technical Assistance:** This webinar will discuss the importance of and research and evaluation methods for incorporating RESEA participants' perspectives into evidence-building activities to foster equitable service delivery and improve program effectiveness.

<https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2023/05/23/20/01/Understanding-RESEA-Participant-Experiences>

- W23) **Producing and Using Cost-Benefit Analyses for RESEA Evaluations:** The webinar will provide information to help states understand what a cost-benefit analysis is and how it can be used to support their Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) evaluations.
<https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2023/06/29/18/50/Producing-and-Using-Cost-Benefit-Analyses-for-RESEA-Evaluations>

About DOL's RESEA Evidence Building and Implementation Study

In 2018, the Department of Labor's Chief Evaluation Office (CEO), in coordination with the Employment and Training Administration (ETA), contracted with Abt Associates and its partners, the Urban Institute, Capital Research Corporation (CRC), and the National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA), to develop strategies to support the evidence requirements in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 that relate to RESEA, and that enacted new Section 306 of the Social Security Act.

One of the major goals of the project is to provide evaluation technical assistance to states to build their technical capacity to meet the requirements of the legislation if they operate an RESEA program. The RESEA Evaluation Toolkit and webinars described in this document, among other resources such as this tip sheet, are part of the project's evaluation technical assistance. Evaluation technical assistance is also available by contacting the RESEA Helpline at resea@abtassoc.com. For more information on this study, including study reports and briefs, visit CEO's Current Study's webpage at: <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/oasp/evaluation/currentstudies/Reemployment-Services-and-Eligibility-Assessments-Research>. All reports are cross-posted for ease of access in ETA's publication database: <https://wdr.doleta.gov/research/search.cfm>.