Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessments (RESEA): Evidence and Evaluation Resources List, April 2022

States participating in the RESEA program use evaluation evidence to continually improve their RESEA programs. 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 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.

Topical Index

1. **What evidence exists on effective approaches to serving UC claimants?**
   E1, E2, E3, E4, K2, K3, K4, W12, W13, W14

2. **What can we learn from evaluating our RESEA program? Where do we start?**
   T1, W1

3. **Which intervention(s) should we evaluate? Which evaluation design should we choose?**
   T1, T3, W3, W4

4. **How do we plan for and prepare to start an evaluation?**
   T1, T2, T4, W2, W4, W6, W7

5. **How do we design and carry out a high-quality implementation evaluation?**
   P6, T1, T4, T5, W10

6. **How do we design and carry out a high-quality impact evaluation?**
   P4, T1, T4, T5, W8, W9

7. **How do we find an evaluator?**
   T1, T8, W5

8. **What should an evaluation report include?**
   K3, K4, T1

9. **What are US DOL's evaluation activities, policies, and guidelines—in general and for RESEA specifically?**
   K1, K2, P1, P2, P3, P5, T6, T7, W11

E – Existing sources of research evidence; K – Key websites; P – US 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

E4) The **Pathways to Work Evidence Clearinghouse** systematically assesses evidence of the effectiveness of interventions designed to help low-income job seekers succeed in the labor market. More information can be found on the Pathways Clearinghouse's homepage at https://pathwaystowork.acf.hhs.gov/

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.

US DOL policies, guidance, and standards

P1) **US DOL Evaluation Policy:** https://www.dol.gov/agencies/oasp/evaluation/EvaluationPolicy
This evaluation policy statement presents key principles that govern US DOL's planning, conduct, and use of program evaluations conducted by DOL or that use funds provided by US DOL funds (including states' RESEA evaluations).

P2) **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.*

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) **CLEAR's standards for rating causal studies:** Standards used by US 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

P5) **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

P6) **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://rc.workforcegps.org/resources/2019/07/30/17/32/RESEA_Evaluation_Evidence_Resources

T5) **Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Evaluation Toolkit:** The WIOA Evaluation Toolkit is an extensive general guide on how to conduct workforce evaluations. This document includes descriptions of key evaluation fundamentals such as types of evaluations and their purposes, things to consider in selecting an evaluator, and activities involved with evaluation implementation. https://evalhub.workforcegps.org/resources/2018/09/07/19/58/WIOA-Evaluation-Toolkit

T6) **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)

T7) **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)

T8) **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) **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

W7) **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

W8) **De-Mystifying Random Assignment Designs for RESEA:** This session aims to increase states' familiarity and confidence with random assignment evaluation designs. http://mahernet.adobeconnect.com/p9uumcab4ro3/

W9) **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://mahernet.adobeconnect.com/_a14339732/pubd2hfg1ksi/

W10) **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. http://mahernet.adobeconnect.com/pxdxnu8sqy9w/

W11) **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

W12) **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

W13) **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://mahernet.adobeconnect.com/_a14339732/ptctlrrwmf1z/

W14) **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

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 RESEA evidence requirements contained in Section 30206 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018, Public Law 115-123, enacting 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. 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.