

# Resources

This section provides resources on evaluation.

## Evaluation

Why should NSF grantees conduct evaluations? Evaluation can improve the project and document what has been achieved and desired impacts are attained...

NSF User-Friendly Handbook to Project Evaluation

### [User-Friendly Handbook to Project Evaluation - NSF](#)

**Synopsis:** Commissioned by NSF to provide principal investigators a basic guide for evaluating NSF-funded educational projects.

**Background:** A detailed but accessible manual (148 pages) designed to help PIs to increase their understanding of the evaluation process and NSF's requirements for evaluation.

It is aimed at people who need to learn more about both the value of evaluation and how to design and carry out an evaluation. The manual introduces quantitative and qualitative evaluation methods, and walks the reader through the evaluation process, tools, and methods.

### [Outcomes Based Evaluation \(OBE\) - University of Utah](#)

**Synopsis:** Concise summary of outcomes based evaluation and how to apply it to your project.

**Background:** Outcomes based evaluation is a systematic way to determine if a program or project has achieved its goals. OBE offers a framework for increasing a project's effectiveness and measuring its outcomes.

Introduces key terms and provides examples and a step-by-step approach.

### [Evaluation Tool Kit - Pell Institute](#)

**Synopsis:** Introduces and shares examples of formative and summative evaluation.

**Background:** This site is designed to strengthen the capacity of pre-college outreach programs to collect and apply evaluation data to improve program outcomes. The site introduces evaluation and includes an [evaluation guide](#) and sample evaluations.

### [MEERA - University of Michigan School of Natural Resources & Environment](#)

**Synopsis:** Considerable information and step-by-step guide to planning evaluations.

## Evaluation Tool Kit

**Background:** Many educators feel that they lack the experience, information, and resources needed to conduct evaluations. My Environmental Education Resource Assistant (MEERA) was created to help meet educators' evaluation needs.

*My Environmental Education Evaluation Resource Assistant (MEERA)* is an online "evaluation consultant" created to evaluate environmental education programs. MEERA helps you to answer two questions: (1) What difference are education programs making? (2) How can education programs be improved?

### [Evaluation Quick Tips - University of Wisconsin](#)

**Synopsis:** Easy-to-use, practical suggestions for improving program development and evaluation.

**Background:** Short articles on basic, solid principles of program development and evaluation. The articles are generally one or two pages in length and free of confusing jargon. Each article suggests sources for further reading for people who are interested in greater detail.

### [Beginners Guide to Program Evaluation](#)

**Synopsis:** A simple introduction to what evaluation is and what it is all about.

**Background:** Designed for those without a technical background in evaluation, this site provides links to a series of handouts introducing program evaluation. It has a dated look and feel, but contains quality information.

### [The Evaluation Center - University of Western Michigan](#)

**Synopsis:** Resources to advance the theory, practice, and utilization of evaluation.

**Background:** An evaluation Mecca for advanced information. [The Evaluation Center](#) provides checklists and resources to plan and manage evaluation.

### [Altmetrics' - How to Measure Impact of Research - Chronicle of Higher Education](#)

**Synopsis:** An article on the Rise of 'Altmetrics' - Questions About How to Measure Impact of Research.

**Background:** A discussion of number of citations, downloads, blog posts and tweets and other social-media activities as a means of documenting academic impact in an information society.

### [Program Evaluation Expertise Available at the University of Missouri](#)

**Synopsis:** A five-page list of people at the University of Missouri with evaluation experience. The list provides area of expertise, experience and contact information for each individual.

[Center for Evaluation and Assessment - University of Iowa](#)

**Synopsis:** Resources provided by the College of Education at the University of Iowa.

**Background:** Links to national evaluation and education research resources.

[Evaluation Resources - Center for Advancement of Informal Science Education](#)

**Synopsis:** A center for resources directed at the evaluation of informal science education (ISE).

ISE is education and free-choice learning for all ages that occurs outside school and through a wide variety of media. ISE venues include film and broadcast media, science centers and museums, zoos and aquariums, botanical gardens and nature centers, digital media and gaming, science journalism, and youth, community, and after-school programs.

## Evaluation Terms

[USAID](#)

[National Network of Libraries of Medicine](#)

### Evaluation Instruments

Here are links to several evaluation questions on STEM learning outcomes

[Desire to Engage in STEM Activities](#)

[Career Motivation](#)

[Self Determination](#)

[Perception of STEM Self-Identity MU-BIN](#)

[Awareness of STEM Careers MU-BIN](#)

[Awareness of Scientists as Ordinary People MU-BIN](#)

### References

[http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/pappguide/nsf13001/gpg\\_2.jsp#IIC2j](http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/pappguide/nsf13001/gpg_2.jsp#IIC2j)

[http://caise.insci.org/uploads/docs/Eval\\_Framework.pdf](http://caise.insci.org/uploads/docs/Eval_Framework.pdf)