

Executive Summary

Evaluating RESEA: How Does it Help My State and Where Do We Start?

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The Balanced Budget Act of 2018 introduced new evidence-based programs and evaluation requirements for the Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessments (RESEA). In this first of several RESEA Evaluation Technical Assistance (E-TA) webinars: a broad overview of program evaluation is shared, an evaluation planning road map is presented, learning goals are discussed, and tools and models are described to help state workforce and RESEA program managers consider the benefits in conducting evaluations. Specifically, the presenters:

- Explained how evaluations—can help determine if RESEA programs vary within states, can be used to understand if UI claimant needs are met, and can improve or strengthen program components or measure outcomes impacts over time;
- Reviewed evaluation planning processes, such as the initial steps states can take to identify which elements of their RESEA program to evaluate;
- Discussed two evaluation planning tools: evaluability assessments and logic models that can be used to develop learning goals and create research questions that to guide RESEA program evaluation efforts;
- Introduced different types of evaluation designs: impact studies, implementation studies, and outcome studies that states can use to build evidence about their RESEA interventions; and
- Highlighted the use of evaluation findings that can be incorporated in RESEA program's cycle of learning and doing.

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