

ESSA Provisions and Federal Guidance Related to Evaluation

Elementary and Secondary Education Act <https://www2.ed.gov/documents/essa-act-of-1965.pdf>

4205(b) MEASURES OF EFFECTIVENESS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For a program or activity developed pursuant to this part to meet the measures of effectiveness, monitored by the State educational agency as described in section 4203(a)(14), such program or activity shall—

(A) be based upon an assessment of objective data regarding the need for before and after school (or summer recess) programs and activities in the schools and communities;

(B) be based upon an established set of performance measures aimed at ensuring the availability of high-quality academic enrichment opportunities;

(C) if appropriate, be based upon evidence-based research that the program or activity will help students meet the challenging State academic standards and any local academic standards;

(D) ensure that measures of student success align with the regular academic program of the school and the academic needs of participating students and include performance indicators and measures described in section 4203(a)(14)(A); and

(E) collect the data necessary for the measures of student success described in subparagraph (D).

(2) PERIODIC EVALUATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The program or activity shall undergo a periodic evaluation in conjunction with the State educational agency's overall evaluation plan as described in section 4203(a)(14), to assess the program's progress toward achieving the goal of providing high-quality opportunities for academic enrichment and overall student success.

(B) USE OF RESULTS.—The results of evaluations under subparagraph (A) shall be—

(i) used to refine, improve, and strengthen the program or activity, and to refine the performance measures;

(ii) made available to the public upon request, with public notice of such availability provided; and

(iii) used by the State to determine whether a subgrant is eligible to be renewed under section 4204(j).

Non-Regulatory Guidance, 2003

H-5: What are the State evaluation requirements?

States must conduct a comprehensive evaluation (directly, or through a grant or contract) of the effectiveness of programs and activities provided with 21st CCLC funds. In their applications to the Department, States are required to describe the performance indicators and performance measures they will use to evaluate local programs. States must also monitor the periodic evaluations of local programs and must disseminate the results of these evaluations to the public.

H-6: What are the evaluation requirements for local grantees?

Each grantee must undergo a periodic evaluation to assess its progress toward achieving its goal of providing high-quality opportunities for academic enrichment. The evaluation must be based on the factors included in the principles (now “Measures” under ESSA) of effectiveness. The results of the evaluation must be: (1) used to refine, improve, and strengthen the program and to refine the performance measures; and (2) made available to the public upon request. Local grantees, working with their SEAs, must evaluate the academic progress of children participating in the 21st CCLC program.