



Third-Party Program Evaluation Assistance

The demand for grant-funded program accountability is steadily rising as grant stakeholders and/or funding sources strive to understand how program operations compare to the plans laid out in original grant proposals. Third-party evaluation is an important service in assessing implementation of proposed program activities and evaluating the achievement of stated goals. Including a unique and thorough third-party evaluation plan in your proposal can give you a decisive edge when competing for Higher Education Act (HEA) grants (Title III, Title V, etc.).

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Whether you are currently writing a grant proposal or have recently been awarded a grant, your program will benefit from third-party evaluation services used to evaluate and monitor your program, as well as define any process improvements. In fact, the next reauthorization of HEA is expected to include issues pertaining to quality of consumer information, oversight, and innovation (ACE, 2015). A third-party evaluation can provide added value to your institution regarding these issues, particularly when it comes to helping you tell your story, improving your programs, and demonstrating program effectiveness to sustain funding.

Engage Our Team to Make the Most of Your Grant

We are an evaluation, assessment and research unit affiliated with the Office of Outreach & Engagement and the Industry Expansion Solutions at NC State University. Our team offers leadership and practical assistance in research, assessment and program evaluation, often in complex environments and in a wide variety of areas—from education to business and industry to military and government agencies.

Our program evaluation services are based on a framework derived from two evaluation approaches—objectives-oriented and participant-oriented. These approaches ensure that full attention is paid to the interests of those funding the activities and to those participating in (and affected by) the activities.

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Leverage Our Uniqueness

Based on client needs and evaluation context, we use an appropriate quality system framework, such as the Baldrige Model Criteria for Performance Excellence, that provides a foundation for the development of the evaluation plan. Such a foundation ensures a high-quality, rigorous and customer-focused evaluation. Our competitive advantage is based on how we evaluate and what we evaluate. Unique to our evaluation services, we develop:

- Pre-intervention assessments
- Logic models and preliminary evaluation design, as needed
- Formative and summative evaluation processes
- Developmental evaluation perspectives, as appropriate
- Post-intervention assessments and next-step plans for using evaluation results
- Evaluation capacity-building to enable long-term self-evaluation by grantee

Understand Our Qualifications

- Extensive knowledge of the Higher Education Act (HEA) as well as measures valued by North Carolina community colleges, such as first-year progression, curriculum completion, performance of college-transfer students, progress of Basic Skills students, success rate of developmental students, and passing rates for GED/diploma and licensure and certification. (NCCCS, 2014).
- Experience developing program evaluations for U.S. Department of Labor and U.S. Department of Education grants (Title III, Title V, TRiO).
- Unparalleled experience with data collection and analysis
- Demonstrated expertise in delivering services for large scale projects
- Demonstrated adaptability to develop practical, but rigorous, evaluation plans
- Daily interaction with educational institutions and industry that results in a more in-depth program evaluation from both job-seeker and employer perspectives



Industry Expansion Solutions (IES) is the engineering-based, solutions-driven, client-focused unit of NC State University. Our broad portfolio and deep industry expertise help organizations grow, innovate and prosper. Our extensive partnerships with business, industry, education and government generate a unique culture of collaboration that provides access to cutting-edge expertise, research, and technology.

Grow Your Business With Confidence. Contact Us Today.

Visit our website: www.ies.ncsu.edu to find the IES Regional Manager nearest you. Contact us by phone: 1.800.227.0264 or email: iesservices@ncsu.edu

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