



NCCEP/GEAR UP CAPACITY-BUILDING WORKSHOP



EXCEL • PROVE • MOBILIZE

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Roundtable: Evaluation in Your Next GEAR UP Application

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Introductions



Challenges

Discussion: What are the primary challenges and/or concerns you have about evaluation in your next GEAR UP application?



Quality of the Project Evaluation

In determining the quality of the project evaluation, the Secretary considers the following factors:

- The extent to which the methods of evaluation are **thorough, feasible, and appropriate** to the goals, objectives, and outcomes of the proposed project.
- The extent to which the methods of evaluation include the **use of objective performance measures** that are clearly related to the intended outcomes of the project and will produce **quantitative and qualitative data** to the extent possible; and
- The extent to which the methods of evaluation will provide **performance feedback** and permit periodic assessment of progress toward achieving intended outcomes.
- The extent to which the evaluation will provide guidance about effective strategies suitable for **replication** or testing in other settings.
- The extent to which the methods of evaluation will, if well-implemented, produce **evidence of promise**.



Evaluation Terminology

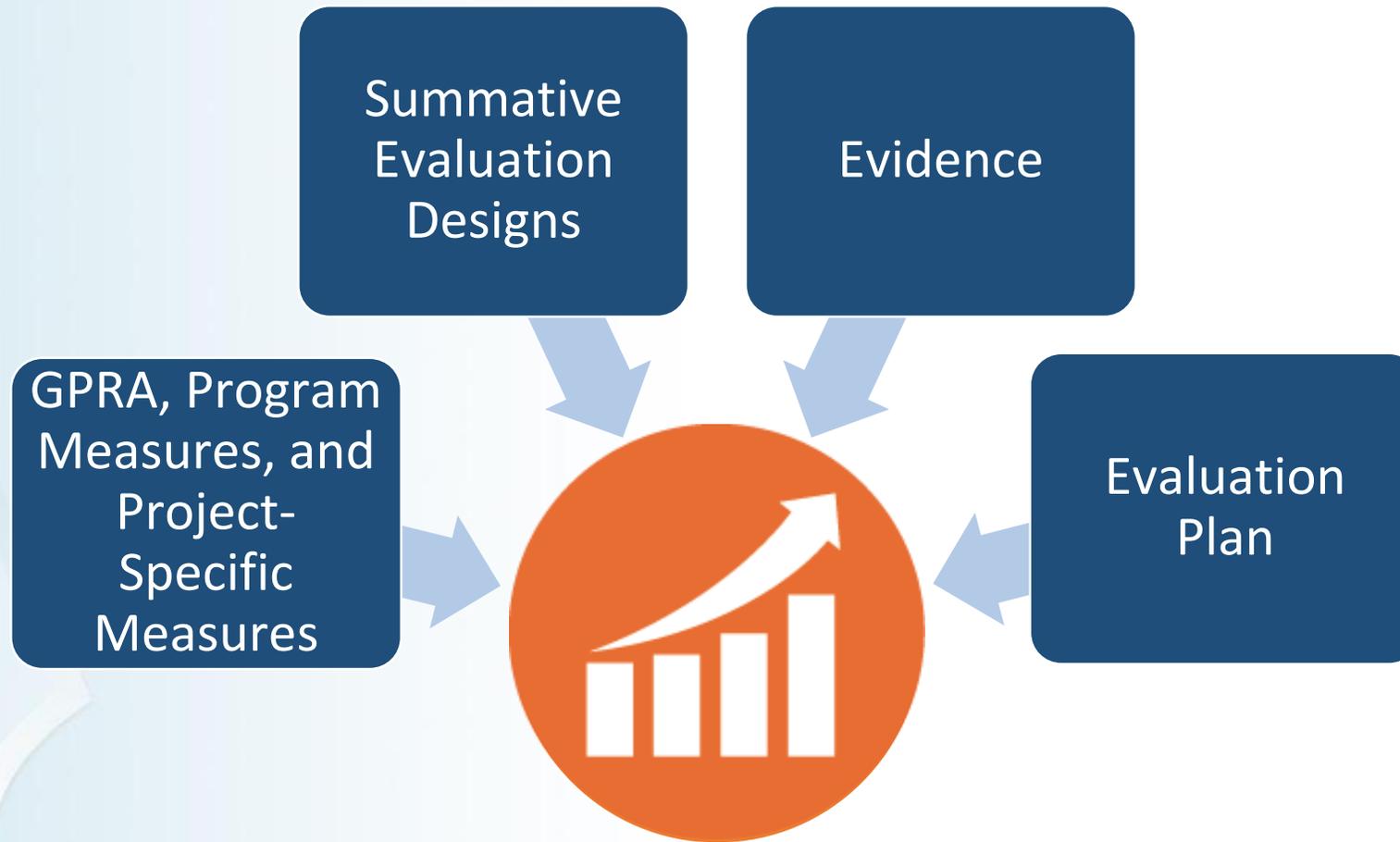
Quantitative – analysis that involves numbers/inferential statistics; data is measured, i.e., t-tests, ANOVA, regression, etc.

Qualitative – analysis that involves descriptions; data is observed, i.e., focus groups, case studies, interviews, etc.

Formative Evaluation – evaluation conducted and reported on an ongoing basis throughout the project to continuously assess the project.

Summative Evaluation – evaluation conducted at the conclusion of the project to assess the overall impact of the project in terms of meeting goals and utilizing efficient resources.

An Overview: Evaluation Components





GEAR UP Objectives, GPRA Indicators, and Project-Specific Measures



GEAR UP Objectives

Objective 1: Increase the academic performance and preparation for postsecondary education for GEAR UP students.

Objective 2: Increase the rate of high school graduation and participation in postsecondary education for GEAR UP students.

Objective 3: Increase GEAR UP students' and their families' knowledge of postsecondary education options, preparation and financing.



GPRA Measures

1. Percent of GEAR UP students who pass Pre-algebra by end of 8th grade
2. Percent of GEAR UP students who pass Algebra 1 by end of 9th grade
3. Percent of GEAR UP students who take 2 years of math beyond Algebra 1 by 12th grade
4. Percent of GEAR UP students who graduate from high school
5. Percent of GEAR UP and former GEAR UP students enrolled in college
6. Percent of GEAR UP students who place into college-level math and English without need for remediation



GPRA Measures

7. Percent of GEAR UP and former GEAR UP students who are on track to graduate college
8. Percent of GEAR UP students who complete a FAFSA
9. Percent of GEAR UP students on track for graduation at the end of each grade
10. Percent of GEAR UP students on track to apply for college as measured by completion of the SAT or ACT by the end of 11th grade
11. Percent of GEAR UP parents who actively engage with activities associated with assisting students in their academic preparation for college



Project-Specific Measures



Summative Evaluation Designs



Summative Evaluation Designs

Experimental study means a study that employs random assignment of, for example, students, teachers, classrooms, schools, or districts to participate in a project being evaluated (treatment group) or not to participate in the project (control group). The effect of the project is the average difference in outcomes between the treatment and control groups.

Quasi-experimental study means an evaluation design that attempts to approximate an experimental design and can support causal conclusions (i.e., minimizes threats to internal validity, such as selection bias, or allows them to be modeled).



Quasi-Experimental Designs

Carefully matched comparison group design means a type of quasi-experimental study that attempts to approximate an experimental study.

More specifically, it is a design in which project participants are matched with non-participants based on key characteristics that are thought to be related to the outcome.



Quasi-Experimental Designs (other)

Interrupted time series design

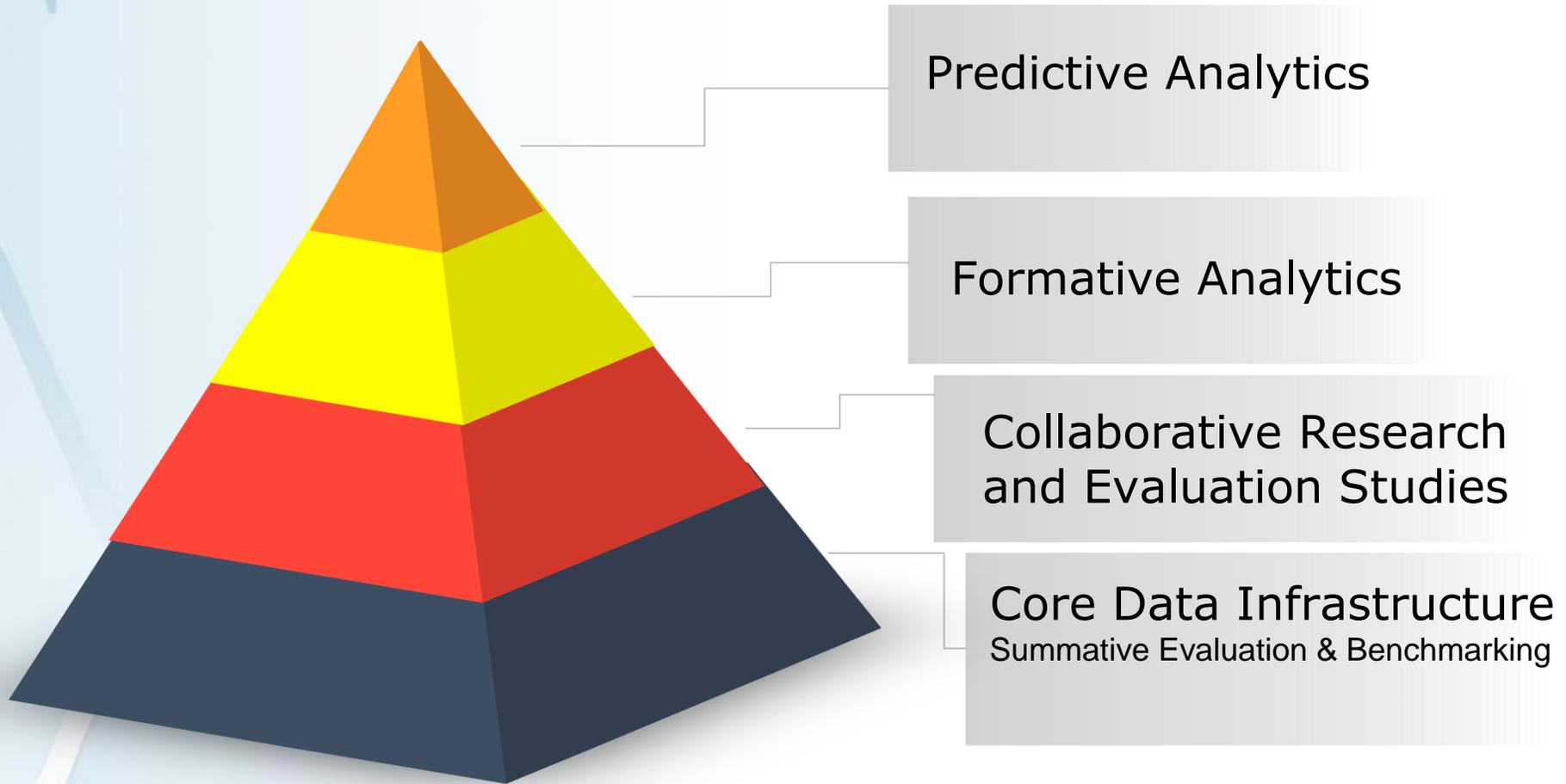
Regression discontinuity design study



Evidence



How can NCCEP illustrate evidence?

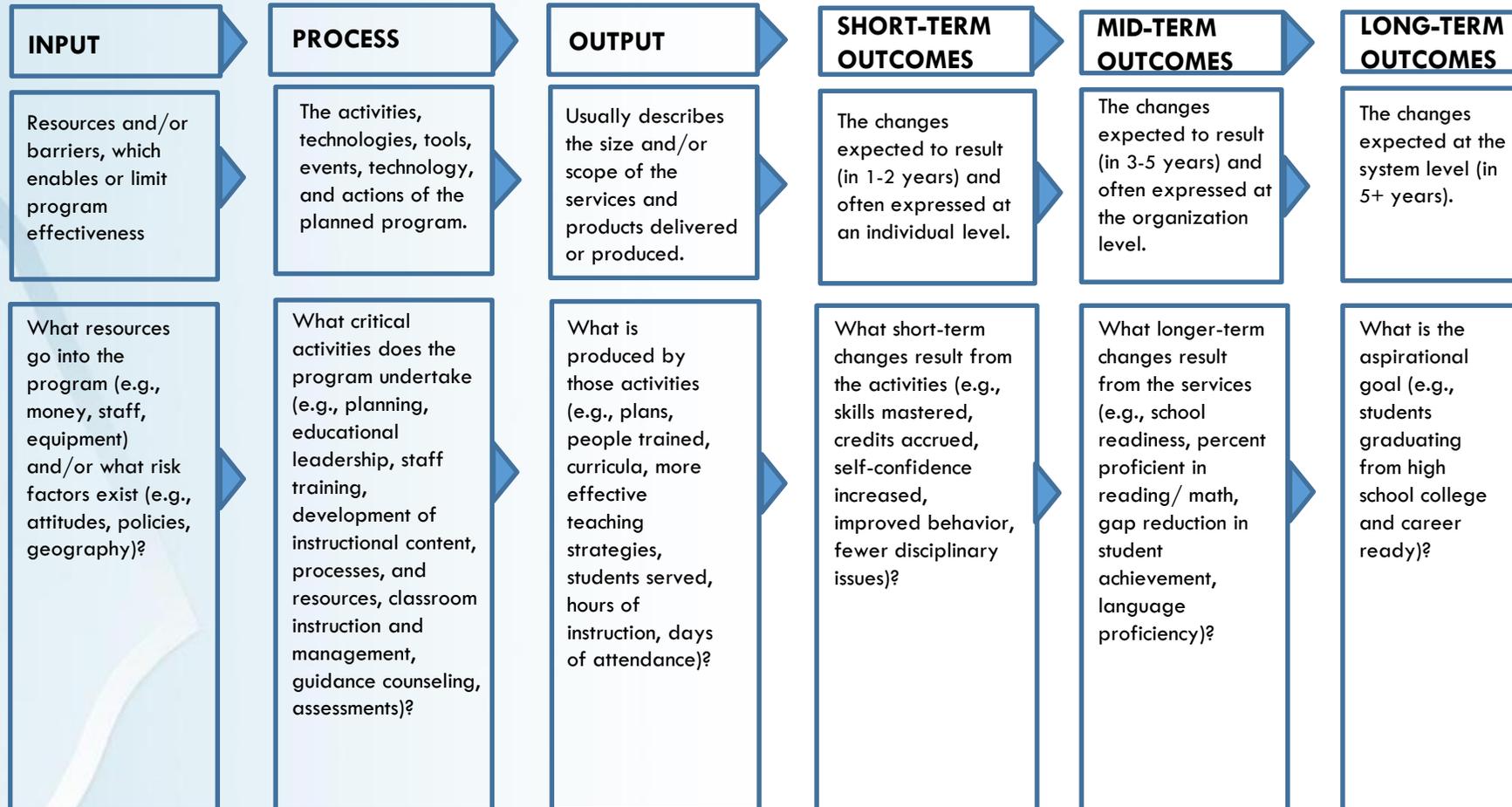


EDGAR Levels of Evidence



Evidence Category	STRONG THEORY	EVIDENCE OF PROMISE	MODERATE EVIDENCE OF EFFECTIVENESS		STRONG EVIDENCE OF EFFECTIVENESS	
			Option 1	Option 2	Option 1	Option 2
Number of Studies	n/a (logic model only)	At least one	At least one		At least one	At least two
Study Findings on a Relevant Outcome		Statistically significant or substantively important (0.25 standard deviation or larger) positive association	Statistically significant positive impact with no unfavorable and overriding impacts		Statistically significant positive impact with no unfavorable and overriding impacts	
What Works Clearinghouse Standards			Meets without reservations (RCT)	Meets with reservations (RCT or QED)	Meets without reservations (RCT)	Meets with reservations (RCT or QED)
Study Sample Size				Large sample	Large sample	
Number of Study Sites				Multi-site sample	Multi-site sample	
Similarity of Population			Overlaps with proposed populations or settings		Overlaps with proposed populations and settings	

Logic Model Template





Evaluation Plan



Evaluation Plan Components

1. Logic Model
2. Overview of Intervention(s)
3. Research Questions
4. Comparison Condition
5. Study Sample
6. Group Selection, if applicable
7. Measures for Obtaining Data
8. Statistical Analyses
9. Attrition
10. Baseline Equivalence, if applicable





Evaluation Checklist

1. Make sure evaluation measures accurately reflect well specified program targets and expectations (outputs and/or outcomes)
2. Do not over evaluate. If you will not use the data for programmatic change, do not require data collection.
3. Do not commit to reporting data that you cannot obtain.
4. Keep scalability and sustainability at the forefront of all that you do to demonstrate that the work is meaningful.
5. Gauge political environment around data privacy at the local, state, and Federal levels
6. Make sure the evaluation design is appropriate for the program's "evaluability" limitations (i.e., comparison group constraints, etc.)

Data

Research

Evaluation



Questions