

Guiding Questions: Evidence and Standards

Directions: Use the following guiding questions to help you align your evaluation design to the desired tiers of evidence and standards.

Questions	Notes
What types of claims do you hope to make from the evaluation?	
What tier of evidence is needed to understand whether the program is working as intended?	
What tier of evidence is needed to satisfy stakeholders?	
Does this approach align with local priorities and community values?	
Are there adequate staffing, data systems, and administration to pursue a given tier of evidence?	
What is the time frame of your evaluation?	
What level of statistical expertise does your team have?	
Do you have funds to hire an external evaluator?	
Is random assignment feasible?	
Is there a minimum tier of evidence required to meet funding requirements (for example, section 1003 funds, school improvement plans, or other grants)?	

This handout was prepared under Contract ED-IES-17-C-0005 by Regional Educational Laboratory Central, administered by Marzano Research. The content does not necessarily reflect the views or policies of IES or the U.S. Department of Education, nor does mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.