

User's Guide: Database of Evaluation Resources: Supporting Effective Educator Development

Why this database?

This database is specifically designed to support people who want to learn more about how to understand, design, or implement research studies and evaluations—especially those that build evidence on programs designed to improve educator effectiveness. Researchers have reviewed hundreds of documents to find the most useful resources to support learning about all aspects of well-designed and well-implemented research studies and evaluations.

What if I want to learn more about a document before reading through it?

We've provided a "Resource Details" sheet for every resource in the database. Simply **click on the title of the resource**, and a pop-up window will provide a summary of the resource.

Evaluation Resources: Supporting Effective Educator Development (SEED)

Below, we offer a set of resource documents to help you understand, design, and implement evaluation methods for educator development programs that is consistent with the Department of Education What Works Clearinghouse (WWC) standards.

How to use this page: To find resources that have the most relevance to your interests, use the filters on the right side of the page. You can find them for each field as you hover over the field name. To learn more about each resource, click on the resource title.

Low-Cost Approaches AND Randomized Controlled Trials (RCT)

Showing 1 to 10 of 10 entries (filtered from 61 total entries) Search:

| Title | Author(s) | Hosting/Publishing Organization | Year of Publication |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Gold-Standard Program Evaluations, on a Shoestring Budget | Baron, J. | Education Week | 2011 |
| Toward School Districts Conducting Their Own Rigorous Program Evaluations: Final Report on the "Low Cost Experiments to Support Local School District Decisions" Project | Newman, D. | Empirical Education Inc. | 2008 |
| When Is It Possible to Conduct a Randomized Controlled Trial in Education at Reduced Cost, Using Existing Data Sources? A Brief Overview | Coalition for Evidence-Based Policy | Council for Excellence in Government | 2007 |
| Rigorous Program Evaluations on a Budget: How Low-Cost Randomized Controlled Trials Are Possible in Many Areas of Social Policy | Coalition for Evidence-Based Policy | Coalition for Evidence-Based Policy | 2012 |

Resource Details

Basic Information

Title: Gold-Standard Program Evaluations, on a Shoestring Budget
Author(s): Baron, J.
Hosting/publishing organization: Education Week
Year of publication : 2011
Short Description:
 An Education Week article advocating for the use of low-cost randomized controlled trials (RCT) in education research. The article describes two examples of recent RCTs that were conducted at low cost, yet produced findings of policy and practical importance. The author suggests that with improvements in information technology and the availability of high-quality administrative data, it is now more feasible to conduct gold-standard randomized evaluations on a shoestring budget.

Resource Characteristics

Audience: Practitioner or Policymaker
Type of Resource: Brief
Length: 2 pages

Evaluation Lifecycle

Planning and Design: Randomized Controlled Trials (RCT)
Collecting and Storing Data: Acquiring Administrative Data

Resource Content

Special Evaluation Topics: Low-Cost Approaches

How can I quickly find what I am looking for?

You can search the database in a number of ways. You can either enter keywords in our **search field** or click through our **filters**. Here are the filters we have designed for you.

- **Resource Characteristics:** These fields allow you to make choices related to the technical level of the resource, the type of resource (whether it's a guide, tool, webinar, report, etc.), and the length of the resource (so you can start with the less lengthy resources, if you like).
- **Evaluation Lifecycle:** You can pick which evaluation topics the drill-down filters to pick specific topics.
- **Additional Focus:** You can also narrow your search by special topics of interest (for example, resources that focus on low-cost approaches, short cycles, or provide examples of outcome measures).



Where can I find definitions for fields, and other terms you use on the website?

For definitions of each database field, checkout [Definitions for Database Fields](#).

For definitions of terms often used in evaluations, view [Technical Terms](#).

What if I click more than one option in the field lists?

The fields use an “AND” logic. As you select more options, you will be directed to a more targeted set of resources. For example, if you want only resources that are written for a non-technical audience that discuss quasi-experimental group design, you should check both fields. On the upper left side, you will see a list of the choices you have selected. You can always hit “Clear All” to get back to the beginning.

Non-Technical Audience **AND** Quasi-Experimental Design (QED)

Showing 1 to 7 of 7 entries (filtered from 61 total entries)

Clear All

Resource Characteristics

Audience

Non-Technical Audience

Researcher

Clear

Type of Resource

Length

Evaluation Lifecycle

Plan and Design

Randomized Controlled Trials (RCT)

Quasi-Experimental Design (QED)

Regression Discontinuity Design (RDD)

Identify and Follow Participants

Collect and Store Data

Analyze Data

Report and Use Findings

Additional Focus

Special Evaluation Topics

Low-Cost Approaches

Short-Cycle Methods

Educator Effectiveness Focus

References WWC Standards

Examples of Outcome Measures