Getting Started With Your ATE Evaluation

ATE PI Conference
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Meet the EvaluATE Team

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Session Objectives

1. Understand the role evaluation should play in your ATE project
2. Know where to report information from your evaluation
3. Know where to turn for more information about ATE evaluation
It’s a Fan!
It’s a Wall!
It’s a Rope!
It’s a Spear!
It’s a Snake!
It’s a Tree!

It’s research!
It’s someone else saying if we met our goals!
It’s our advisory committee’s feedback!
It’s a survey!
It’s course evaluations!
It’s the NSF annual report!

Image source: expertcytometry.com
**Evaluation** is the systematic determination of a project’s merit, worth, or significance.

**Evaluation Involves...**

1. Asking important questions about a project’s progress, quality, outcomes, and impact
2. Gathering a variety of data to answer those questions
3. Making sense of those data through analysis and interpretation
4. Reporting and using the evaluation results to improve and plan future work
Evaluation Purposes

**Improvement**
- What are the project’s strengths and weaknesses and how can it be improved?

**Evidence**
- What are the outcomes and impact of the project?

**Accountability**
- What was done, who was served, what are the outputs?

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**Evaluation Purposes**

“The most important purpose of evaluation is not to prove, but to improve.”

— Daniel Stufflebeam
Where You’ll Need Information from Your Evaluation

Feedback to project staff and partners
Annual report to NSF
Annual ATE survey
New proposals
*ATE Centers Impact* book (centers only)

Reporting

- EVALUATOR
- PI
- PROGRAM OFFICER
- OTHER PROJECT STAKEHOLDERS, e.g., partners, advisors, participants, host administrators
Annual Reports to NSF

- Goals
- Activities, Objectives, Results, and/or Outcomes
- Upload your evaluation report here

Annual Survey

- Conducted mid-February through mid-March
- Questions based on calendar year
- Response rate always exceeds 90 percent
- Preview survey questions at www.evalu-ate.org
Proposals: Results of Prior Support

“specific outcomes and results including metrics to demonstrate the impact of the project”

—ATE Program Solicitation

ATE Centers Impact Book & Website

Student impact data
Workforce impact data

www.atecenters.org
Is this your first time working on an ATE grant?

Will this be your first experience with project evaluation?
Have you had a meeting with your evaluator yet?

Getting Started

1. Make sure your evaluator’s contract is in place
2. Set up a meeting with your evaluator
3. Find out who your college’s “data person” is and make an appointment with him or her
4. Set up a timeline for your evaluation—work backwards from your annual report’s due date
Using EvaluATE

Let’s start with your folder!

PI “To-Do” Checklist by MentorConnect
ATE Survey Fact Sheet

The ATE Survey is designed to capture the latest in comprehensive evaluation. The ATE Survey Fact Sheet includes a summary of key findings from the survey, which is conducted annually. The survey is a valuable tool for understanding the impact of ATE projects on various indicators, such as student outcomes and faculty development.

Have you participated in an EvaluATE webinar?

Webinars are an essential component of EvaluATE’s efforts to support the ATE community. They provide a platform for sharing best practices, discussing challenges, and networking with peers. To find upcoming webinars and learn more, visit the EvaluATE website at evalu-ate.org.
Webinars

ATE Evaluation 101
September 2013

Nuts and Bolts of ATE Evaluation Reporting
May 2013

www.evalu-ate.org/webinars
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www.evalu-ate.org
Website Highlights

Diverse voices
Written especially for PIs

www.evalu-ate.org

Website Highlights

BRAND NEW!
by ATE community members

www.evalu-ate.org
Website Highlights

Recordings
Slides
Handouts

www.evalu-ate.org

We’d love to hear from you!

www.evalu-ate.org
## More on Evaluation at the Conference

**THURSDAY**  
7:45 a.m.  Breakfast Roundtable 7: How to Track, Evaluate, and Promulgate Center Online Educational Resources

10:30 a.m.  ATE Research and Evaluation: Responsibilities and Opportunities

**FRIDAY**  
7:45 a.m.  Breakfast Roundtable 16: Research and Evaluation by ATE Projects and Centers

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## More on Evaluation at the Conference

Visit the EvaluATE team at Booth #3 during showcase sessions
Questions?

Thank You!