

Use of External Evaluator for Professional Development Programs

Query – 11.11.2003

Query:	
I would like to know if other Title II Improving Teacher Quality Program Administrators are using an external statewide evaluator for their PD programs. And, if so, how well is that working.	
From: Washington	
Responses:	
Nevada	We have decided that we would like to do the same thing, but have not yet found an evaluator. I'd love to know also how this is working out for whoever is doing it, and who they are using.
Wyoming	Many award recipient partnerships use an evaluator, but we do not use one from a state perspective.
Oregon	No, not for Title II Part A. We don't have enough \$ to use an external evaluator. I'll be interested to see if anyone else is doing eval though I recall that Missouri was talking about eval at one of our meetings. My office will be looking at how well projects do at the performance standards and measures that were written into the projects - not sure if I will report that info unless required by the feds. Actually, under Eisenhower one year the Oregon Dept of Ed and Oregon University System did collaborate to bring in Northwest Regional Labs to do an eval of the program (both the K-12 and higher ed portion). They funded it because higher ed did not have enough \$ to do it. I did not think the report we received back was very useful, particularly for the amount of \$ provided.
South Carolina	South Carolina is not using an external evaluator.
North Carolina	NC is not using an external evaluator for Title II projects.
Oklahoma	Oklahoma used an external evaluator to go back and comprehensively review all of the programs funded under the previous reauthorization to help us inform future professional development efforts. This comprehensive review will be out in February, and we will share it with the collaborative members. If you are interested in learning more about the researchers, don't hesitate to contact me or Stacey Weinand at sweinand@osrhe.edu .
West Virginia	West Virginia has not used an external evaluator.
Arkansas	Arkansas does not use an external evaluator statewide for Title II.
Rhode Island	RI is not using an external evaluator of the PD programs.
Puerto Rico	In Puerto Rico the RFP requires each project to have an external evaluator. A recent study of a sample of Eisenhower funded projects from 1993-2001, revealed evaluation reports' weaknesses. Although the teachers' professional development projects were accomplishing their objectives with teachers, there was not much evidence that could demonstrate that the projects had an impact on their students. At this moment we are emphasizing to the NCLB projects' directors and evaluators the importance of evaluating the academic achievements of the participant teachers' students due to the project. There will be a periodic external evaluation of the NCLB Professional Development Program, every five years.
Virginia	Virginia is not using a statewide evaluator.
Georgia	Georgia is not using an outside evaluator.
Missouri	Missouri is currently using one external evaluator to evaluate all nine funded projects

	for our Cycle-1 under the NCLB.
Alaska	Alaska is not using an outside evaluator for Title II programs.
Mississippi	Mississippi is not using a statewide external evaluator Title II programs.
Colorado	Colorado is not using a statewide external evaluator for Title II professional development programs.
New Jersey	New Jersey is considering hiring a single outside evaluator to evaluate both the Title II Improving Teacher Quality Partnership (ITQP) and Title II Math Science Partnership (MSP) grant programs. If this actually happens, we'll share the info with the SHEEO Collaborative.
Utah	Utah is not using an external evaluator. With only two programs funded, the RFP raised expectations about evaluation of the projects.
Ohio	Ohio is not using a statewide external evaluator.
Louisiana	Louisiana uses an in-state external evaluator in conjunction with our partnership with the state Department of Education for our LINCS (Learning Intensive Networking Communities for Success) PD program. We use only out-of-state reviewers for all proposals submitted in response to our RFP to universities for professional development projects with K-12 teachers. The out-of-state reviewers, in turn, act as front-end evaluators, making recommendations for changes to strengthen projects before proposals are funded. This seems to work well, as we are constantly revising the program to increase its success.