

## **Resources on Evaluation**

**(Compiled by the Arts Education Partnership-- [www.aep-arts.org](http://www.aep-arts.org)) 7.7.03**

1. *American Evaluation Association* **<http://www.eval.org>**

→ Publications AND → Links

“The American Evaluation Association is an international professional association of evaluators devoted to the application and exploration of program evaluation, personnel evaluation, technology, and many other forms of evaluation... The American Evaluation Association's mission is to improve evaluation practices and methods, increase evaluation use, promote evaluation as a profession, and support the contribution of evaluation to the generation of theory and knowledge about effective human action.”

“Program Evaluation Standards”

**<http://www.eval.org/EvaluationDocuments/progeval.html>**

A list of “should’s” about utility, feasibility, propriety, and accuracy that evaluators can strive to follow.

2. *United States General Accounting Office* **<http://www.gao.gov>**

“The General Accounting Office is the audit, evaluation, and investigative arm of Congress. GAO exists to support the Congress in meeting its Constitutional responsibilities and to help improve the performance and ensure the accountability of the federal government for the American people. GAO examines the use of public funds, evaluates federal programs and activities, and provides analyses, options, recommendations, and other assistance to help the Congress make effective oversight, policy, and funding decisions. In this context, GAO works to continuously improve the economy, efficiency, and effectiveness of the federal government through financial audits, program reviews and evaluations, analyses, legal opinions, investigations, and other services.”

→ Other Publications → Evaluation Research and Methodology

Guides, checklists, and reference sheets about topics from quantitative data analysis to case studies to interviewing techniques.

3. *Department of Education Planning and Evaluation Service (PES)*

**<http://www.ed.gov/offices/OUS/PES/index.html>**

“The Planning and Evaluation Service (PES) coordinates strategic planning and program performance reporting across the Department of Education; conducts independent evaluations of the major federal education programs; and coordinates the Department's role in international education activities.”

→ Evaluation → Evaluation Tools

“Materials accessed through this page provide information on evaluation design, methods and other issues in achieving high quality evaluation design and promoting responsible use.”

4. *Arts Council of England*

“Partnerships for Learning: A Guide to Evaluating Arts Education Projects” by Felicity Woolf, 1999, 60 pages, ISBN 0-7287-0791-8, Free

**<http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/downloads/information/partnershipsforlearning.pdf>**

This guide helps organizations and individuals evaluate arts education projects.

5. *Utilization-Focused Evaluation : The New Century Text* by Michael Quinn Patton  
\$54.95 at amazon.com

“Utilization-Focused Evaluation (U-FE) begins with the premise that evaluations should be judged by their utility and actual use; therefore, evaluators should facilitate the evaluation process and design any evaluation with careful consideration of how everything that is done, *from beginning to end*, will affect use.”

Utilization-Focused Evaluation (U-FE) Checklist

**<http://www.wmich.edu/evalctr/checklists/ufe.pdf>**

6. *The Evaluation Center* “Evaluation Checklists”

**<http://www.wmich.edu/evalctr/checklists/>**

“This site provides evaluation specialists and users with refereed checklists for designing, budgeting, contracting, staffing, managing, and assessing evaluations of programs, personnel, students, and other evaluands; collecting, analyzing, and reporting evaluation information; and determining merit, worth, and significance. Each checklist is a distillation of valuable lessons learned from practice.

“The site's purpose is to improve the quality and consistency of evaluations and enhance evaluation capacity through the promotion and use of high-quality checklists targeted to specific evaluation tasks and approaches.”

→ Support Services

This part of the site contains glossaries, helpful web links, and more.

7. “Folklife and Fieldwork: A Layman’s Introduction to Field Techniques”

**<http://lcweb.loc.gov/folklife/fieldwk.html>**

8. The Evaluators’ Institute **<http://www.evaluatorsinstitute.com>**

“The Evaluators’ Institute offers short-term professional development courses for practicing evaluators.”