



# A Tool for Assessing Program Fit and Feasibility

Before implementing a program, you want to ensure that you have identified a program that aligns with an organization's and community's needs and capacity. A program that addresses the needs you have identified in your community, fits your budget and resources, and takes into consideration the organization with which you work is more likely to reach and sustain the intended program outcomes for your target audience. We have developed the following tool that is intended to assist communities in determining program fit & feasibility.

## ASSESSING PROGRAM FIT & FEASIBILITY

**Instructions:** It is important that before you complete this tool that you identify a program that you are considering implementing within your community. Please answer the following questions on the potential program by responding either yes, somewhat, or no. Record your answers using the correct point value for each answer:

- Yes: 2 points
- Possibly: 1 point
- No: 0 Points

Program Research & Fit	Yes (2 Points)	Somewhat (1 Point)	No (0 Points)
Question 1: Has there been <u>research</u> conducted on the program? If no, skip to question 5.			
Question 2: Has the research on the program demonstrated significant impacts on the <u>short- and long-term outcomes</u> you wish to influence in your community?			
Question 3: Has the research on the program demonstrated effects for the <u>population</u> you wish to serve (e.g., consider age, school grade, gender, race, rural vs. urban, and levels of risk)?			
Question 4: Has the program been researched in and recommended for the <u>setting</u> (e.g., school, after-school, community organization) you plan to implement it in?			

Question 5: Does the program align with the <u>culture and values</u> of the community, stakeholders, and target population?			
Question 6: Does the program <u>target the risk and protective factors</u> (e.g., elevated rates of substance abuse) identified as priorities for your community?			
Question 7: Will the program fit with <u>existing prevention efforts</u> in the community?			
Add Totals for Each Column			
Total Program Fit Score (Sum of Both Columns)			

<b>Program Feasibility</b>	<b>Yes (2 Points)</b>	<b>Somewhat (1 Point)</b>	<b>No (0 Points)</b>
Question 1: Do you have <u>buy-in</u> from key <u>gatekeepers</u> (e.g. support of installation leadership for the program, or support from school administrators and teachers)?			
Question 2: Are <u>implementation materials</u> (e.g., manuals, workbooks, handouts, and procedures) available to guide program implementation?			
Question 3: Are there <u>technical assistance specialists or experts available</u> to support program implementation?			
Question 4: Is <u>program training available</u> for staff facilitating and implementing the program?			
Question 5: Are <u>tools available</u> to help monitor program implementation, such as fidelity tools?			
Question 6: Are <u>evaluation tools available</u> to measure program outcomes?			
Question 7: Is the program <u>administratively feasible</u> given the policies and procedures of your organization?			
Question 8: Are the recommended staff qualifications, time to implement the program, and program resources <u>feasible</u> ?			
Question 9: Do you have <u>access to the recommended target audience</u> (e.g., school staff, community members, parents)?			
Question 10: Do you have strategies to <u>recruit participants</u> ?			

Question 11: Do you have the <u>capacity to implement the program</u> as designed and recommended by the program developer?			
Question 12: Do you have the <u>capacity to evaluate the program</u> and <u>monitor fidelity</u> ?			
<b>Add Totals for Each Column</b>			
<b>Total Program Fit Score (Sum of Both Columns)</b>			

### FIT & FEASIBILITY SCORE

Please record the total for Program Fit and Program Feasibility from the tables above. Compare your score with the score listed in the box below.

Program Fit Score

Program Fit	
Not a Good Fit	6 or Less
Moderate Fit	7 to 9
Good Fit	10 or higher

Program Feasibility Score

Program Feasibility	
Not Feasible	11 or Less
Moderately Feasible	12 to 17
Very Feasible	18 or higher

If a program achieves, a “Good Fit” and “Very Feasible” score then the program aligns well with your community and has a higher chance of reaching the intended outcomes with the target audience. However, if the program has a “Good Fit” score but has a “Moderately Feasible” score, then you may not have as high of a chance of reaching the intended outcomes. Programs with a score in the range of “not a good fit” or “not feasible” should be avoided as they are not as likely to produce and sustain the desired outcomes with your target audience.

### Available or Achievable Resources

This section will help you determine the resources that you have and the resources that you need in order to implement the program.

1. Is funding available to implement and sustain this program? Yes    No
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2. If yes, please check the type of funding that is available:

- Grant Funding      Financial Donations  
Corporations      Other\_\_\_\_\_

3. Please check the resources that are needed to implement the program:

- Staff Training                      Program Materials                      Family Meal Supplies  
Family Meal Supplies              Child Care for Families              Participation Incentives  
Facility to Host Program              Participant Transportation              Recruitment Materials  
Technology (DVD player, TV, Computer, Projector, Camera)      Other\_\_\_\_\_

Please list any resources that you do not have that may be difficult to obtain to implement this program:

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

If you have listed any resources that are needed to implement the program but may be difficult to obtain, you may want to consider selecting another program that better fits your needs.

We at the Clearinghouse have Technical Assistance (TA) Specialists available who can help by offering support and guidance through the program selection process and also provide possible strategies to help you obtain the needed resources to implement the program. Our TA Specialists are available from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST/EDT Monday through Friday. Use the information below to contact us!

**Clearinghouse for Military Family Readiness**

The Pennsylvania State University

Email: [Clearinghouse@psu.edu](mailto:Clearinghouse@psu.edu)

Website: <http://www.military.families.psu.edu>

Live Chat: <http://www.militaryfamilies.psu.edu/assistance/live-chat>

Phone: 1-877-382-9185

**Please Note:** This tool was developed based on the review of Literature and Tools related to selecting evidence-based programs. Please see our Selecting Evidence-Based Programs Reference List.

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