

Frequently Asked Questions about Youth Impact Evaluation in EFNEP and FSNE

August 2006

What is YQD?

The Youth Question Development (YQD) will be a new component of the State Reporting System (SRS5) section of NEERS5. YQD is a database of questions or tools that are entered into the system in such a way that data collected from groups of children can actually be entered and summarized in NEERS5.

How does YQD relate to the Youth tools web site where the tools are located?

Each youth evaluation question or tool that will be in the YQD collection will also be available on a “Youth Evaluation Tools & Documentation” website (hosted on a University of Wisconsin web server). At this web site (<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/wnep/ncyouth/>) the submitted tools are displayed by state and by Level of testing so readers can see at a glance which tools meet various criteria. Tools will also be listed by number as assigned by the YQD at the time of entry into that software.

So, when a user of SRS5 (to be released in late fall or early winter 2006), goes to the YQD and searches for and selects a youth evaluation tool from that collection, he or she can then go to the “Youth Evaluation Tools & Documentation” website to find the actual tool and detailed information about the tool, its development and testing, and how to use it.

How do I know that the tools that are being shared are “good” tools?

Each tool or question that is submitted is assessed by a team of Reviewers. The Reviewers look at the tools and review the information about how the tools were developed, tested and used. Only tools/questions that meet certain criteria will be included in the collection on the “Youth Evaluation Tools & Documentation” web site and in the YQD collection within NEERS5. There is detailed information about the review process and the criteria on the “Youth Evaluation Tools & Documentation” web site.

What if I have youth evaluation tools that should be included in the YQD?

At the “Youth Evaluation Tools & Documentation” website (<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/wnep/ncyouth/>) you will find a description of the process for submission of tools. Follow the steps in the document “Overview of Process for Soliciting and Selecting Quality Quantitative Evaluation Tools” and complete the “Youth Tool Submission Form.”

I need some youth evaluation tools now, for use in planning for youth programming that will start this fall—How can this system help me now?

Tools from the following states have already been entered into YQD and are displayed on the “Youth Evaluation Tools & Documentation” web site: Indiana, Wisconsin, Kansas, and New York. Tools from the following states are nearly ready to be entered: Michigan, Wyoming, Ohio, California and hopefully will be available soon. Watch the website for frequent updates and new tools!

Starting now, you can choose one or more questions or tools from the “Youth Evaluation Tools & Documentation” web collection that may meet your needs.

Review the documentation about the tools/questions for information about their design and use. Make decisions about their possible use in your state.

What will I do with the data (results) I collect from the use of the Youth Evaluation tools that I selected from the collection?

When you are ready to use tools from the “Youth Evaluation Tools & Documentation” collection:

- Design and implement procedures in your state to use the tool and collect results from groups of youth learners.
- Keep good records about the tools/questions that were used with each youth group and the results obtained.
- When the State Reporting System (SRS5) portion of NEERS5 is released, you will be able to find the tool you selected within the YQD collection of tools. Follow the directions (in the Manual) that come with SRS5 for use of the YQD to enter your results.

What if I choose to use youth evaluation tools that are not part of the YQD collection? Can I still report my results into NEERS5 for FY07?

The use of tools and evaluation procedures that are part of the YQD and the “Youth Evaluation Tools & Documentation” web site is strictly voluntary. If a state uses tools that are not included in this collection during FY07, those youth impact results can still be reported into NEERS5 using the four existing and long-standing youth impact indicators as you have in previous years.