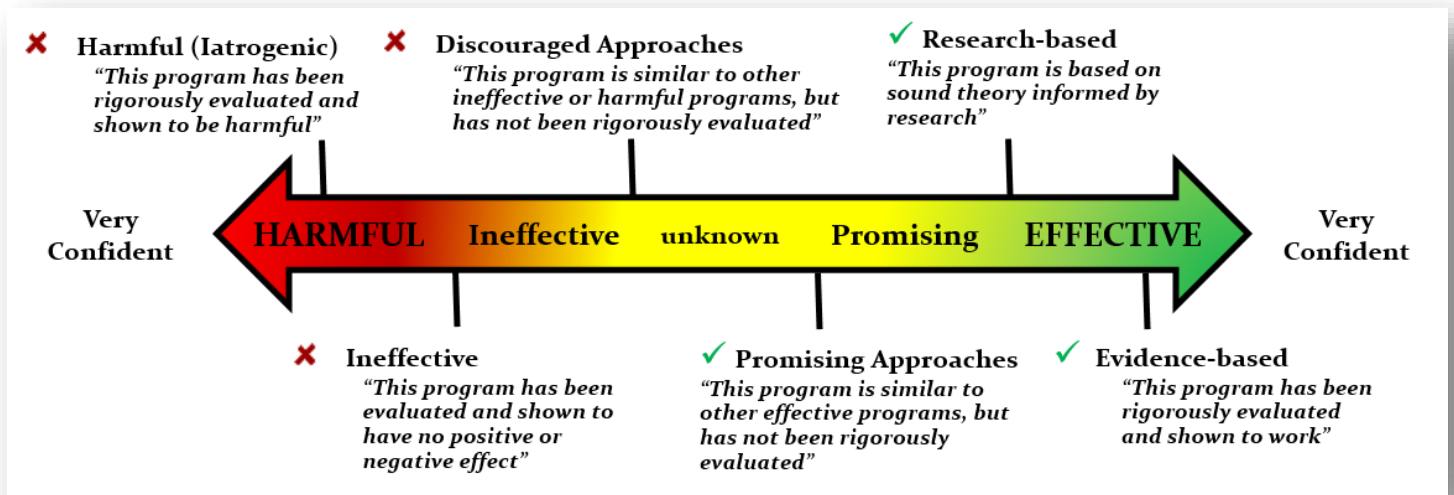


# What Do We Mean When We Say a Program is “Evidence-based”?

Prevention scientists rate programs along a continuum of confidence:



\*Bumbarger & Rhoades, 2012

Researchers examine research studies to determine whether a program:

- ✓ Demonstrated effectiveness in rigorous scientific evaluations including randomized control trials.
- ✓ Was assessed in large studies with diverse populations or through multiple replications by independent researchers (not the developer of the model)
- ✓ Resulted in significant and sustained effects for a minimum of 6 months, post program.

Programs that meet all three of these criteria tend to fall in the green, evidence-based end of the continuum.

## How to Identify Highly Rated Evidence-based Programs

Several websites have already done the work of reviewing research studies and rating programs' effectiveness. Consult these resources to ensure that the programs you want to implement will be effective.

Rating Source	Area of Focus	Website
<b>Blueprints for Healthy Youth Development</b>	Child welfare, juvenile justice	<a href="http://www.blueprintsprograms.com">http://www.blueprintsprograms.com</a>
<b>California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare</b>	Child welfare	<a href="http://www.cebc4cw.org/">http://www.cebc4cw.org/</a>
<b>Coalition for Evidence-Based Policy</b>	Social policy	<a href="http://www.coalition4evidence.org">www.coalition4evidence.org</a>
<b>CrimeSolutions.gov</b>	Criminal justice	<a href="http://www.crimesolutions.gov/">http://www.crimesolutions.gov/</a>
<b>National Registry of Evidence-Based Programs</b>	Child welfare, juvenile justice, social programs	<a href="https://www.samhsa.gov/nrepp">https://www.samhsa.gov/nrepp</a>
<b>Promising Practices Network</b>	Child welfare, juvenile justice, social programs	<a href="http://www.promisingpractices.net/programs.asp">http://www.promisingpractices.net/programs.asp</a>
<b>What Works Clearinghouse</b>	Education	<a href="http://www.ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/">http://www.ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/</a>
<b>What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse</b>	Criminal justice	<a href="https://whatworks.csgjusticecenter.org/">https://whatworks.csgjusticecenter.org/</a>

One particularly useful clearinghouse is the **PEW Charitable Trusts Results First Clearinghouse Database**. This is a one stop shop for accessing the many lists of evidence-based programs.

1. Go To: <http://www.pewtrusts.org/en/multimedia/data-visualizations/2015/results-first-clearinghouse-database>
2. Type in the key words for the program or type of program you are looking for
3. Compare ratings across various clearinghouses to determine which programs are rated most highly, most frequently.
4. Dig deeper for more information by hovering over the colored rating dots and clicking on learn more!

Please contact the EPISCenter for additional technical assistance: [EPISCenter@psu.edu](mailto:EPISCenter@psu.edu) (814) 863-2568



EDNA BENNETT PIERCE  
PREVENTION RESEARCH CENTER



The EPISCenter is funded by PCCD, the PA Department of Human Services, and DDAF through PCCD grants VP-ST-26885 and VP-ST-26796.