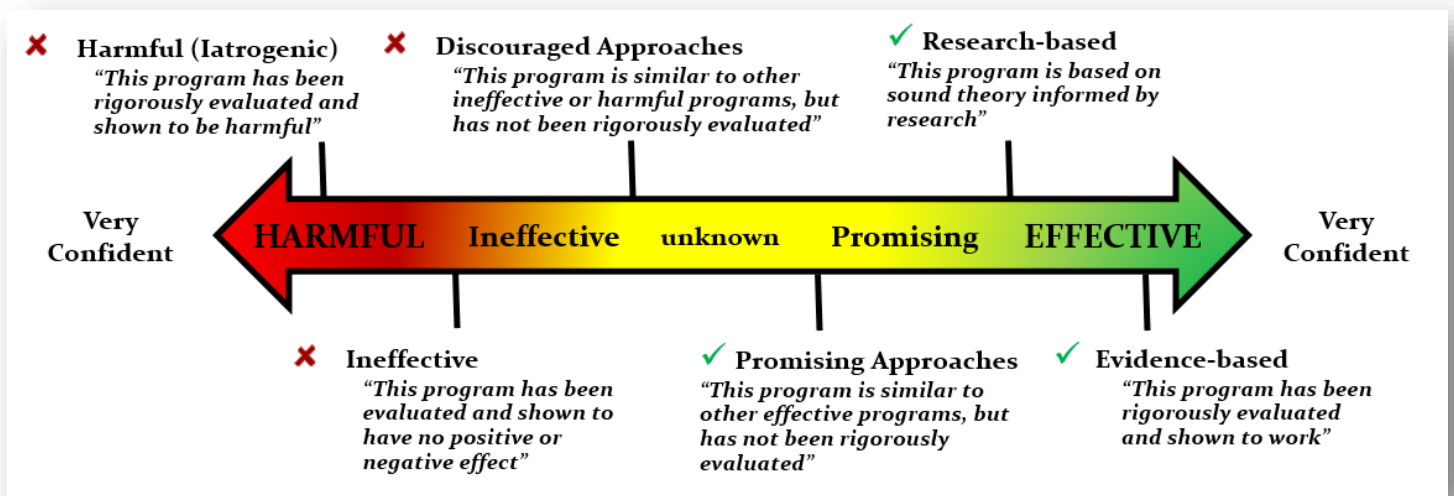


# What Does it Mean When We Say a Program is “Evidence-based”?

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.



EPIS

EVIDENCE-BASED PREVENTION  
AND INTERVENTION SUPPORT



PennState  
College of Health and  
Human Development

EDNA BENNETT PIERCE  
PREVENTION RESEARCH CENTER

# 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
Blueprints for Healthy Youth Development	Child welfare, juvenile justice	<a href="http://blueprintsprograms.org/">http://blueprintsprograms.org/</a>
Results First Clearinghouse Database	Combines 9 national clearinghouses*	<a href="https://evidence2impact.psu.edu/what-we-do/research-translation-platform/results-first-resources/clearing-house-database/">https://evidence2impact.psu.edu/what-we-do/research-translation-platform/results-first-resources/clearing-house-database/</a>
California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare	Child welfare	<a href="http://www.cebc4cw.org/">www.cebc4cw.org/</a>
CrimeSolutions.gov	Criminal justice	<a href="http://www.crimesolutions.gov/">www.crimesolutions.gov/</a>
What Works Clearinghouse	Education	<a href="http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/">ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/</a>
What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse	Criminal justice	<a href="http://whatworks.csgjusticecenter.org">whatworks.csgjusticecenter.org</a>
Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse (Family First)	Child welfare	<a href="https://preventionservices.abtsites.com/">https://preventionservices.abtsites.com/</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: <https://evidence2impact.psu.edu/what-we-do/research-translation-platform/results-first-resources/clearing-house-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 EPIS for additional technical assistance: [EPIS@psu.edu](mailto:EPIS@psu.edu) (814) 863-2568

