

# THE POLICY & RESEARCH GROUP

**THE POLICY & RESEARCH GROUP (PRG)** CONDUCTS RESEARCH AND EVALUATION STUDIES ACROSS A RANGE OF POLICY AREAS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT STATES ARE REQUIRED TO INCLUDE AN RESEA EVALUATION PLAN IN THEIR **STATE PLAN** AND MUST IMPLEMENT THEIR RESEA EVALUATIONS BEGINNING IN **FY 2020**. THIS DOCUMENT PROVIDES: 1) AN OVERVIEW OF **HOW PRG CAN HELP YOUR STATE** MEET THESE NEW REQUIREMENTS AND 2) A DESCRIPTION OF **PRG'S EXPERIENCE IN RIGOROUS LABOR EVALUATION**.

## COMPANY OVERVIEW

- EXPERIENCED STAFF:** PRG has a staff of 27 full-time evaluation professionals, including 22 with advanced degrees.
- BREADTH OF EXPERIENCE:** In our 15 years of experience, we have served as an independent evaluator for over 70 projects.
- RESPONSIVENESS:** As a boutique firm, we remain flexible and responsive while providing high-quality evaluation services.
- GEOGRAPHICALLY DIVERSE:** PRG has conducted evaluation services in 20 states and the District of Columbia.

## RESEA SERVICES

### PROJECT PLANNING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- Lead the creation of a comprehensive multi-year evaluation plan to be included in your state's 2020 State Plan
- Consult state offices on which current state re-employment services meet moderate or high-evidence ratings according to the [Clearinghouse for Labor Evaluation and Research \(CLEAR\)](#); advise on feasible new intervention strategies that meet RESEA requirements; collaborate with state offices to determine which innovative strategy is meaningful to evaluate
- Provide evaluation capacity building and technical assistance services, including developing protocols and conducting trainings on data collection, data entry, and data management as needed.

### RESEARCH DESIGN

- Conduct literature reviews, prepare logic models, and develop a plan for formative research and a rigorous study.
- Design a research plan that meets the DOL requirements for a rigorous evaluation that builds program evidence.
- Create a detailed evaluation plan that outlines timelines, responsibilities, and research methods, including an implementation/formative evaluation and impact evaluation.

### DATA COLLECTION, DATA MANAGEMENT, & ANALYSIS

- Identify appropriate data collection methods, scales, and instruments.
- Obtain and manage third-party existing datasets, including statewide unemployment insurance (UI) wage data.
- Conduct data analysis as outlined in the evaluation plan. Impact evaluation methods may include multivariate linear and logistic regression; longitudinal, multi-level and mixed-effects modeling; and time-series analysis.
- Assess project performance, progress, and sustainability through formative and implementation evaluations.

## PROJECT EXAMPLES

### Workforce Innovation Fund (WIF)

Workforce Investment Board of Herkimer, Madison & Otsego Counties, New York: PRG conducted a randomized controlled trial (RCT) to examine the impact of an innovative postsecondary training and education program. PRG entered into a data use agreement with the New York State Department of Labor to receive individual-level UI wage data.

Florida Department of Economic Opportunity & CareerSource Florida: This impact study used a quasi-experimental design (QED) with propensity score weighting to examine the impact of a Performance Funding Model (PFM) program on three outcomes: employment, wages, and time to employment.

### Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT)

Vincennes University & West Virginia Community & Technical College System: PRG conducted quasi-experimental evaluations to assess the impact of two career readiness programs on education and employment outcomes using individual-level UI wage data.

Six community & technical colleges: PRG designed the impact evaluation for six TAACCCT projects. PRG determined the data required for the evaluation, how to access those data, and developed a design, analysis, and reporting plan.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR WORKFORCE AND INCOME WORK, VISIT [POLICYANDRESEARCH.COM/WHAT-WE-ARE-ASKING-IN-WORKFORCE-INCOME](https://policyandresearch.com/what-we-are-asking-in-workforce-income)

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