

Finding Evidence-Based Practices

Evidence-Based Practices (EBPs) support identified action steps in the school improvement process. To ensure practices are implemented with the greatest impact on student achievement, schools identified for comprehensive or targeted support and improvement must implement at least one EBP that meets the criteria for either Tier 1, 2 or 3. Evidence for Tiers 1 and 2 should be gathered from large, multisite studies with characteristics of the sample and setting similar to those in your school or district.

Table 1 provides three clearinghouse links to assist schools as they search for EBPs to support their School Improvement Plans.

Focus Area	Website
Tier 1 Curriculum	What Works Clearinghouse Find What Works!
Instructional Practices Use the Practice Guide Search to search by topic or keyword.	What Works Clearinghouse Practice Guides
Tier 1 Curriculum and Intervention(s)	Evidence for ESSA

Please note that Tiers 1, 2 and 3 require that the evidence of impact be statistically significant; the impact must be substantial enough to not be due to chance. (See table 2.)

ESSA Tiers of Evidence			
Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4
STRONG EVIDENCE: supported by one or more well-designed and well-implemented randomized experimental studies.	MODERATE EVIDENCE: supported by one or more well-designed and well-implemented quasi-experimental studies.	PROMISING EVIDENCE: supported by one or more well-designed and well-implemented correlational studies (with statistical controls for selection bias).	The practices have a well-defined logic model or theory of action, are supported by research, and have some effort underway by a State Education Agency, Local Education Agency, or outside research organization to determine their effectiveness.

For further information, see [Selecting Evidence-Based Practices for Tiers 1, 2, and 3: Navigating Clearinghouse and Databases - Office of Elementary and Secondary Education](#).