

# Evaluator Screening Tips

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## Why You Need This

Originally developed for Social Innovation Fund (SIF) grantee programs, this Tip Sheet for screening prospective evaluators can help anyone hire an evaluator that is a good fit for their evaluation's needs. Identifying an appropriate evaluator is essential for conducting a rigorous program evaluation, but also helps ensure that findings are credible and useful for learning and improvement.

## What You'll Find

The resource provides information on:

- Types of experience and expertise to look for in an evaluator,
- Where to search online for supporting information on the evaluator's (or organization's) background and publications, and
- How to assess the quality and relevance of the candidate's (or organization's) technical knowledge and approach through reference and conflict of interest checks, as well as reviews of reports or responses to a statement of work.

## How to Use

The resource includes an Evaluator Information Worksheet to help organize your findings with respect to applicants' experience and qualifications, familiarity with your program, familiarity with your preferred research design and methods, usefulness of previous evaluation reports, existing clients/potential conflicts of interest, and approach to engaging with programs in conducting evaluations.