

CERE Professional Development



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CERE History



- **Founded in 1999**
- **Focus on Evaluation component of grants**
- **CERE works with both Federal and Private agencies**
 - Examples: DOE, NSF, W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Rock River Foundation, Mississippi Gulf Coast Black Nurse Association
- **CERE provides services to UM faculty and entities**
 - Examples: CELI, Trent Lott Leadership Institute, CMSE, Mississippi Teacher Corps
- **CERE also provides services for entities outside of UM**
 - Examples: America Reads Mississippi, Barksdale Reading Institute, Mississippi Public Broadcasting, Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR), TELI(A)

What is Research?

What is CERE's Role?



- Research is a cyclical process that begins with the identification of a research problem or question. Next step involves a review of the related literature and then definition of the purpose of study (with appropriate hypotheses and research questions). Next is the collection and analysis of the data, followed by the interpretation of the results. Lastly, the report of the results in conjunction with the evaluation of the research and the overall project.
- CERE can assist with each step in the research process.

What is Research? What is CERE's Role



Identify the research problem

Report and evaluate research

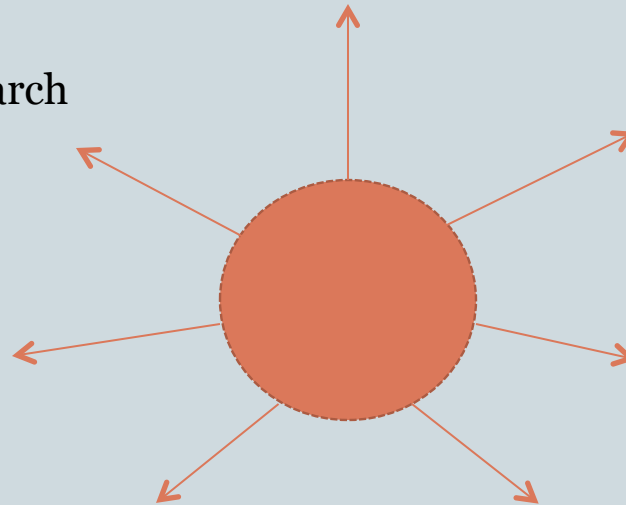
Review the literature

Interpret data

Specify a purpose for the research

Analyze data

Collect data



Evaluation



- **CERE Evaluation Services – Dual Purposes**
 - **Grantee Support:** CERE's evaluation reports allow the Grantees to see the results of their work and detail the areas of the project that may need improvement
 - **Grantor Knowledge:** CERE provides Grantors (Funding Agencies) with detailed information regarding projects they have funded
 - ✦ Not a focus on whether achieved positive or negative results, but rather on accountability – has the Grantee been a good steward of the funds received and implemented the project in the manner described in the funding proposal?

Services Offered



- Grant Writing Support
- Project and Evaluation Design
- Survey/Instrument/Procedures Development
- Evaluation of Instrument Design
- Professional Development for Researchers
- On-Site or Online Administration of Surveys
- Data Management
- Data Analysis and Interpretation
- Development of Evaluation Reports

Grant Writing Support



- Collaborate with clients to write the initial grant proposal
 - Why do you want to write this proposal?
 - What are the questions or hypotheses you seek to address with the project?
 - What are the broader impacts?
 - Why and How are you collecting the data?
 - ✦ Is there a better way to collect the data to address your questions or hypotheses?

Project and Evaluation Design



- CERE works closely with clients to provide them with an evaluation proposal that meets the needs of the project and the funding agency
 - Federal grants have different evaluation needs than private
 - ✦ External vs. Internal
 - ✦ External Evaluator more common
 - ✦ Internal Evaluator example : EPSCoR

Survey/Instrument/Procedures Development



- **CERE develops surveys/instruments for clients**
 - Working closely with the Grantee, CERE develops instruments that obtain the necessary information for the project
 - ✦ Example: Parents for Public Schools
- **CERE develops focus group sessions and conducts interviews for clients**
 - CERE develops questions for focus groups and phone/in-person interviews and administers those processes
 - ✦ Example: PPS and EPSCoR

Evaluation of Instrument Design



- CERE assists clients to select appropriate assessment instruments
 - Example: TELI(A)
- CERE works with clients to edit existing or client-developed instruments
 - Example: A Top Down Approach
 - TERC

Professional Development for Researchers



- CERE conducts professional development for various researchers and entities
 - Examples Include:
 - ✦ Presentation on Educational Research to School of Pharmacy
 - ✦ Presentation on CERE's work and services as relates to grants and contracts (e.g., today's SOE professional development)

On-site or Online Administration of Instruments



- **CERE will administer surveys/instruments on-site or through online means**
 - Example: CELI – CERE created online survey for principals at various schools CELI was serving
 - Example: TELI(A) – CERE administered surveys to evaluate a Kindergarten Academy professional development for participating kindergarten teachers in Tallahatchie County
 - Example: TELI(A) – CERE administered Brigance testing for kindergarteners and first grader at two schools in Tallahatchie County
 - Example: ARM – CERE conducted Dibbles testing at various schools that participated in ARM

Data Management



- **CERE manages all data and ensures confidentiality**
 - CERE scores all instruments requiring scoring
 - CERE enters all data collected from surveys/instruments
 - CERE maintains confidentiality of data through coding and secured access
 - CERE obtains IRB approval when necessary
 - ✦ Example: TELI(A) Brigance testing data

Data Analysis and Interpretation



- CERE provides clients with a thorough analysis and interpretation of all data received
 - Quantitative/Statistical Analysis
 - ✦ Example : Rebels Reading for Academic Success
 - Qualitative Analysis
 - ✦ Example : EPSCoR focus groups and tracking

Development of Evaluation Reports



- CERE provides clients formative and summative evaluation reports in a timely manner
- Data is analyzed and interpreted and a formal report provided to necessary stakeholders participating in the project
- Many projects require several reports throughout the project

Grants

How do I find? Where do I start?



- Grants are available for almost any topic. Search possible funding sources for available grants on that topic (or grants that could be used for that topic).
 - Email from Kelli – Educational Grants
- Read the Request for Proposal (RFP) to learn the specific requirements for that proposal and follow those guidelines exactly.
 - Link to example Federal RFP:
 - Link to example Private RFP:
<http://www.wkkf.org/grants/for-grantseekers.aspx>