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<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/5269h06s>

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Publication Date

2009-11-01

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**Prepared for the
California Institute for Energy and Environment and the
California Public Utilities Commission's Energy Division**

November 2009



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Energy Efficiency Evaluation Training Opportunities

The following list provides a brief description of the types of programs/ services offered for improving the capabilities of individuals in the field of energy efficiency evaluation. Readers interested in these opportunities should go to the appropriate website to learn about the latest offerings.

1. International Energy Program Evaluation Conference (IEPEC)

- The IEPEC Conference, held every other year, offers an excellent opportunity to learn about evaluation and to meet experts in the field of evaluation. In addition, the conference proceedings provide an excellent source of training material on evaluation.
- IEPEC sponsors one-half day and full-day workshops on a range of energy evaluation topics the day prior to their biennial conference, ranging from Evaluation Management 101 to Advanced Statistics.
- IEPEC also maintains a directory on their website on Connections/Directory page. The directory is in the form of an Excel spreadsheet. The primary purpose of this directory is to provide information to students (high school, undergraduate, and graduate) on energy and energy-related programs in colleges and universities as a stepping stone for encouraging their involvement in the energy program evaluation field.
- Website: www.iepec.org

2. Association of Energy Services Professionals (AESP)

- Brown bags – evaluation topics are sometimes discussed
- AESP Institute – “Principles of Research and Evaluation” (for beginners):
“AESP’s 2-day course is ideal for those new to evaluating, monitoring or tracking energy efficiency program results. This course delves into the importance of research and evaluation, describes different evaluation methodologies and when to use them, and helps you develop an effective evaluation plan. The course is loaded with exercises, case studies and best practices and includes extensive information on net-to-gross ratios, what they mean and how they impact your programs.”
- AESP Institute – “Economics and Evaluation” (for experienced practitioners):
“AESP’s course targets DSM professionals needing to significantly expand their knowledge base in DSM economics and evaluation best practices, industry trends, and emerging issues. The Economics section delves deeply into the application of cost-benefit tests, cost-effectiveness metrics, determining discount rates, etc. The Evaluation section provides comprehensive information on evaluation methodology, evaluation costs, new trends and issues in evaluation.”
- AESP Institute – “Principles of Demand-Side Management”:
“AESP’s 2.5 day workshop provides an overview of the key components of DSM, program planning, economics, implementation and evaluation.”
- Website: www.aesp.org

- 3. Consortium for Energy Efficiency (CEE)**
 - CEE arranges training on particular topics (e.g., social marketing) and has provided evaluation training to regulators at the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC). Check their Calendar for current offerings.
 - Website: www.cee1.org

- 4. Efficiency Valuation Organization (EVO)**
 - In conjunction with the Association of Energy Engineers (AEE), EVO offers the Certified Measurement and Verification Professional (CMVP) program.
 - EVO sponsors one-day and two-day monitoring and verification (M&V) and IPMVP courses. These courses are available but not required for the CMVP examination.
 - Website: www.evo-world.org

- 5. The Evaluators Institute**
 - “The Evaluators’ Institute (TEI) offers certificates for professional evaluators. One certificate requires demonstration of evaluation know-how and three are course based. The program is offered to assist evaluators, and those who wish to be, in planning a program of study in evaluation, in acquiring the knowledge and skills essential to conduct high quality evaluations, and in having evidence (certificate) to provide public acknowledgement of preparation as a professional evaluator. The certificates differ in the breadth and depth of subject matter to which the candidates are exposed, the amount of coursework, and the requirement for demonstration of know-how. Each focuses on important knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed for the conduct of evaluations that are valid, informative, and useful to stakeholders.”
 - There are three course-based certificates: (a) Certificate in Evaluation Practice, (b) Certificate in Advanced Evaluation Practice, and (c) Certificate in Quantitative Evaluation Methods. And a fourth that is competency based: Master Evaluator Certificate.
 - Website: tei.gwu.edu

- 6. American Evaluation Association (AEA) Summer Evaluation Institute**
 - Three sets of three-hour training workshops, two rotations of 90-minute breakout sessions. Topics range from evaluation planning, sampling, causal attribution, focus groups to reporting, and theory and practice.
 - Website: www.eval.org

- 7. American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE)**
 - The ASHRAE Learning Institute offers seminars and courses, including Determining Energy Savings from Performance Contracting Projects: Measurement and Verification.

- ASHRAE offers certification programs in the following fields: (a) Healthcare Facility Design, (b) High-Performance Building Design, (c) Operations and Performance Management, and (d) Commissioning Process Management.
- Website: www.ashrae.org/certification

8. American Public Power Association (APPA)

- APPA conducts evaluation and market research training as part of their conferences and have published guidebooks that accompany these courses.
- Website: www.APPA.net and www.EERCnet.org

9. U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE)

- USDOE's BestPractices (in the Industrial Technologies Program) offers system-wide and component-specific training programs (including evaluation and assessment) throughout the year and around the country. The training sessions are offered on: (a) Compressed air systems (b) Fan systems, (c) Motor systems, (d) Process heating, (e) Pumping systems, and (f) Steam systems.
- Website: www1.eere.energy.gov/industry/bestpractices/training.html

10. National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency (NAPEE)

- NAPEE offers direct technical assistance to state public utility commissions on evaluation planning, as well as an upcoming series of conference calls on key evaluation topics.
- Website: epa.gov/cleanenergy/energy-programs/state-and-local/evaluating.html

11. American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE)

- ACEEE conducts a biennial conference (the Summer Study on Energy Efficiency in Buildings) which presents several papers and sessions on program evaluation. In addition, the conference proceedings provide an excellent source of training material on evaluation.
- Website: www.aceee.org/pubsmeetings/index.htm

If you know of any other evaluation training opportunities, please send them to Ed Vine at: Edward.Vine@uc-ciee.org