

Evaluation Practicum

What is the Evaluation Practicum?

The Practicum is an interactive, collaborative online mentoring program associated with the Evaluation for Evaluation Specialists course (EES) sponsored by the Office of Learning, Evaluation, and Research in the Bureau for Policy, Planning and Learning (PPL/LER). USAID staff who successfully complete the EES course are eligible to participate in the Practicum. The Practicum is designed to build on the knowledge and skills gained in the EES course with “hands-on” learning experiences to further develop the skills of USAID Evaluation Specialists. Completion of the EES course and the Practicum are both required for voluntary Agency Certification in Evaluation (ACE).



Practicum Requirements

Required activities for completion of the Practicum include:

- Participating as an evaluation team member for a USAID-sponsored evaluation;
- Completing a discrete evaluation-related task (such as developing a Mission Order, developing an Evaluation Capacity Building Plan for your Operating Unit, etc.); and
- Completing a series of readings on performance and/or impact evaluation.
- Completing a 5-7 page reflection paper to synthesize lessons learned during the Practicum

During the Practicum, participants are mentored online by a senior evaluation expert through online discussions and feedback on journal postings relating to the Practicum activities.

Benefits of the Training

The Practicum serves as a requirement to a USAID certification in evaluation, ensuring a similar, standard level of skills in planning, implementing, and advising on evaluation activities. In participating, you will:

1. • Increase your understanding of the role of evaluation at USAID;
2. • Reinforce and further develop technical skills in evaluation;
3. • Build advisory skills to support USAID evaluations;
4. • Enhance appreciation of the perspective of various stakeholders involved in USAID evaluations;
5. • Produce high quality and useful evaluation products for your Operating Unit or Bureau;
6. • Build your credentials and professional growth at USAID!

Interested? Contact Justin Reppert at practicum@socialimpact.com

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