

Understanding Program Evaluation

for Youth Wellbeing

www.youthrex.com/opec

This <u>free</u> 10 week online certificate developed by Youth Research and Evaluation eXchange (YouthREX) will provide participants with a foundational understanding of the main concepts, approaches and practices relevant to conducting evaluation of programs and initiatives within a youth sector context.

Participants will receive a <u>Certificate</u>
of <u>Completion</u> from YouthREX, York
University if they complete all 4 modules
and a minimum of 4 assignments.

Those who complete individual modules and not the full certificate (all 4 modules) will receive a <u>Certificate of Participation</u> for the completed modules from YouthREX, York University.



WE KNOW THAT the Ontario youth sector is committed to making a positive difference in the lives of young people, providing them with the skills and resources they need to make positive contributions to their communities.

WE RECOGNIZE THAT that youth programs sometimes struggle to understand how to measure these processes and outcomes and articulate the impact of their programs to their stakeholders – including parents, funders, and youth themselves.

IN THIS CERTIFICATE, participants will learn how to develop an evaluation plan, implement this plan and use the findings to improve their programs and share their impact.

KEY CERTIFICATE FEATURES

- ✓ Participants will receive a comprehensive certificate outline that includes lesson plans and resources for all lessons and assignments
- ✓ All 10 lessons will be available to participants when the certificate begins so participants can learn at their own pace. They will be able to stay on track with the help of suggested timelines that guide them through the required work.
- ✓ There will be a live welcome and orientation webinar where participants can ask questions in real time and engage with the YouthREX Teaching Team. The welcome webinar will include a walk through of the certificate structure and the learning platform.
- ✓ Participants will also have access to YouthREX's evaluation webinars that are specially developed to support the evaluation capacity of youth sector programs

"The clear layout of approaching program evaluation was very helpful. I'm excited to have so many good tools and pieces of information when applying the different aspects of evaluation. I feel like I have a much clearer evaluation roadmap than I did before!"

- CERTIFICATE PARTICIPANT, 2019

WHY TAKE THIS CERTIFICATE?

Through involvement in this certificate, participants will:

- ✓ Understand common program evaluation concepts and ideas, and appropriate uses of different types of evaluation
- ✓ Learn the processes and activities involved in program evaluation through hands-on assignments that can help inform your own youth program
- ✓ Understand the process of engaging youth in evaluation
- Become familiar with qualitative and quantitative research methods used in conducting evaluations
- Learn how to use evaluation findings to improve programs and services

% WHO IS THIS CERTIFICATE FOR?

Frontline youth workers, management staff, students, researchers, and other professionals who are new to evaluation will find this certificate useful. The certificate is particularly useful for participants from youth sector organizations who are currently involved in or are considering embarking on a program evaluation journey. It does not require any previous understanding of evaluation or research methods.

STRUCTURE OF THE CERTIFICATE

- ✓ The certificate includes 4 modules comprised of a total of 10 lessons.

 Each weekly lesson requires up to 3 hours of work and includes recorded learning videos and other resources.
- ✓ There are suggested timelines and due dates for the lessons and assignments to help you progress through the 10-week certificate.
- ✓ The certificate includes a live welcome and orientation webinar where participants can ask questions in real time and engage with the YouthREX Teaching Team.
- ✓ There are 6 small assignments that help you work through the development of an evaluation plan for your program.
- ✓ Participants will also have access to YouthREX's evaluation webinars that are developed to support the evaluation capacity of youth sector programs in Ontario.
- ✓ There is a discussion board for participants to post, share and engage
 with their peers and the YouthREX Teaching Team.

? I HAVE A QUESTION.

Please get in touch with us.

We'd love to hear from you! learn@youthrex.com

What topics will the certificate cover?

MODULE ONE

The Evaluation Context

01: The Ontario Youth Sector

02: What, Why & How: The Fundamentals of Program Evaluation

Click here to watch an Intro to Module One https://vimeo.com/185655571

MODULE TWO

The Discovery Phase of Evaluation

03: Pre-Evaluation Check Up

04: Understanding your Program Theory
Using Logic Models

Click here to watch an Intro to Module Two https://vimeo.com/185655573

MODULE THREE

The Action Phase of Evaluation

05: Focusing and Planning Your Evaluation

06: Collecting Evidence - Process Evaluation

07: Collecting Evidence - Outcome Evaluation

08: Analyzing and Interpreting Quantitative Data

09: Analyzing and Interpreting Qualitative Data

Click here to watch an Intro to Module Three https://vimeo.com/185655574

MODULE FOUR

The Legacy Phase of Evaluation

10: Learning from Evidence: Internal and External Communication

Click here to watch an Intro to Module Four https://vimeo.com/185655575

Technical Requirements

You will need access to a computer and the internet. It is recommended that you use Google Chrome as your browser to minimize any audio issues.



Click here to watch an Overview of YouthREX's Program Evaluation for Youth Wellbeing Certificate https://vimeo.com/185655570

