

Using CLEAR to inform decision making (Part 2 Video)

Title screen appears presenting CLEAR logo and title: “Using CLEAR to inform decision-making”

Welcome to Part 2 of “Using CLEAR to inform decision making.” This video presents two use case examples of how CLEAR can be used to help make informed, evidence-based decisions.

“Part 1” is Labeled on screen with screen shot of CLEAR website homepage appearing on left-hand side. “Part 2” is labeled with image of 3 people – two conversing, while one person who we see from behind is looking at computer screen with CLEAR website open.

If you have not had the chance to view Part 1, which provides an overview of what CLEAR is and the different resources it offers, you can do so by visiting the Resources page of the CLEAR website.

Image of a confused woman sitting at a desk behind a computer with questions marks around her head.

You may be wondering how you can use CLEAR to find relevant studies, learn from the findings to improve your programs, and make informed decisions that are based on evidence. Let’s take a look at an example.

A waving woman appears in center of screen, titled “Meet Teri”

Meet Teri.

Image of Teri sitting behind desk, conversing with two people seated in front of her

Teri oversees programs that provide employment and training services at American Job Centers, or AJCs. These include reemployment programs intended to connect people to services that help them find and keep jobs.

Illustration of certificate labeled “Notice of Funding Award” appears in center of screen

Teri’s state recently received a grant to help connect jobseekers to employment opportunities.

Top half of screen is labeled “American Job Center Services” with icons for identification badge, a handshake, the internet, and a briefcase. The bottom left of the screen is labeled “Service A” and has one male icon and two female icons The bottom right of the screen is labeled “Service B” and has three male icons and three female icons.

Teri's state and local AJCs are currently running a number of programs to quickly connect jobseekers to employment and Teri wants to make an evidence-informed decision about what effective services to include in the new program.

On left of screen, Teri looks at a computer screen which displays the CLEAR website. On the right side of the screen, Teri converses with a man.

To help inform her decision, Teri reviews different types of evidence. She reviews the AJCs' performance reports, data, and other documents to figure out what services seem to be in demand.

The left side of the screen enlarges to take up the entire screen

She also asks her colleagues who work at neighboring states or nearby AJCs to see what services they think are potentially promising.

The CLEAR webpage appears, then opens to an example Synthesis Report.

Importantly, Teri wants the new grant program to be informed by the best research evidence out there. So, Teri uses CLEAR to find and read up on studies about reemployment programs, and to see which programs and practices have shown evidence of being effective, especially in settings like hers.

An image of a smartphone appears. The fields for name, phone number, email, resume, and cover letter are filled in one by one.

Teri learns from a CLEAR synthesis report on reemployment services that job search assistance services had favorable impacts on individuals' employment. She also finds out that lighter-touch programs like changing employer contact requirements could potentially speed reemployment.

An illustration of the CLEAR website appears

Teri uses CLEAR's searchable database to find some of the specific studies listed in the synthesis, as well as studies on the kinds of services already being used or recommended by her colleagues.

"Teri's New Programs" is labeled onscreen above two identical illustrations labeled "Program X" and "Program Y". The "Program X" and "Program Y" labels appear in a large central circle, surrounded by five icons: an ID badge, a handshake, a bar graph, a briefcase, and a globe with a cursor over it.

She uses these studies to identify some new program services she wants to include in the new reemployment program.

Image of woman giving a thumbs up

Teri now has an understanding from CLEAR about the practices that research shows have helped connect people to employment. She has looked at a variety of evidence and can make an informed decision about what effective or promising services to include in the new program. She is confident the new funding will help improve the labor market outcomes of the people her local AJCs serve.

CLEAR logo appears

That's just one example of how CLEAR makes research on labor interventions actionable to inform decision-making. Here's another example on how CLEAR can help.

Illustration of waving man appears in center of screen, titled "Meet Paulo."

Meet Paulo. Paulo works for his state's Division of Labor Statistics and Research.

Two large icons are in the center of the screen: a Workplace Attendance chart and a band-aid, with smaller icons surrounding them. The chart and band-aid icons are shrunk to the left side of the screen. In the top right side of the screen, an icon of a magnifying glass hovering over a report appears, with text that says, "ASSESS the effectiveness of inspections on workplace safety." On the bottom right side of the screen, an exclamation mark icon appears, with text that says, "INFORM the state's health and safety inspection strategies."

Workplace illnesses and injuries have recently increased in Paulo's state and his division has been tasked with hiring an independent evaluator to (1) assess the effectiveness of inspections on workplace safety and (2) inform potential improvements to the state's health and safety inspection strategies.

Paulo and three other people are sitting around a conference room table in front of a blank whiteboard.

Paulo understands the learning priorities of this effort and he wants to be sure his state funds a high-quality study.

The whiteboard displays the CLEAR website.

Paulo suggests using CLEAR's Causal Evidence Guidelines as a way to inform the new study's design so it can provide them with the kind of evidence the state seeks.

The whiteboard displays three icons of a study profile, labeled, "Design A, Design B, and Design C."

The guidelines provide the evidence criteria CLEAR uses for rating causal studies; in other words, the criteria the studies must meet to provide reliable evidence.

Each of the three icons are subsequently enlarged to the left side of the white board. The right side of the whiteboard contains text saying CLEAR Evidence Rating, with an CLEAR evidence rating icon below the text.

He walks through the different designs and concludes the state should ask evaluators to propose study designs that can produce higher evidence ratings according to CLEAR standards, such as randomized controlled trials, interrupted time series, and comparison group designs.

“Using CLEAR guidelines to inform higher quality evaluation” is labeled on screen, with four icons underneath: two bar charts, the workplace attendance icon, and the band-aid icon.

By using CLEAR’s causal evidence guidelines, Paulo and his division will be able to launch an evaluation that can provide them with more credible, higher quality evidence and inform their thinking about how to improve safety in their state.

[CLEAR website](#) homepage appears

As these two examples illustrate, CLEAR is a central, accessible resource you can use to support your decision-making. For more information on CLEAR, you can visit clear.dol.gov. To learn more, check out other videos on our website, review CLEAR’s reference documents, or see our FAQ for quick answers to common questions.

Video clicks on the “About CLEAR” tab and shows a page on the [CLEAR website](#) that says “Contact CLEAR”

You can also contact us through our website at clear.dol.gov if you have a specific question about CLEAR. This concludes our two-part video series on "Using CLEAR to inform decision making." You can find links to these videos and other helpful resources about CLEAR on the Resources page of the CLEAR website.

Closing title screen appears presenting the CLEAR name and logo.

We hope to stay connected through CLEAR in the future!