

 NCSL LEGISLATIVE  
**SUMMIT**



# Measurability Assessment

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A new program of the NC General Assembly's Program Evaluation Division

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# Program Evaluation Division's Two Ways to Evaluate State Programs

- **Evaluations (since 2007)** – in-depth studies of existing state programs to determine whether they are effective and efficient and in accordance with the law
- **Measurability Assessments (2017)** – brief assessments of new and existing state programs to determine whether they are well-designed and collect the performance information necessary to inform any future inquiries into their effectiveness and efficiency

# North Carolina Measurability Assessment Act of 2016

- Allows the General Assembly to require that a measurability assessment be performed of **any proposed or existing state program** to determine whether the program is or will be capable of reporting on its **performance** and **return on investment**
- A measurability assessment is an **independent** evaluation of a program's progress on **14 indicators**

# Program Evaluation Division's Role

- Establish standards for conducting and reporting measurability assessments and the format for independent assessors to submit measurability assessment reports

# Measurability Assessment Process



NC General Assembly

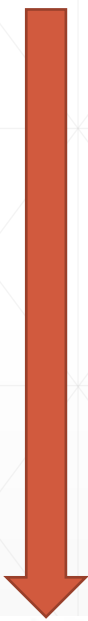
Program Evaluation Division



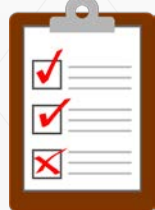
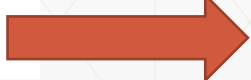
Proposed or Existing State Program



Self-Assessment



Independent Assessor



Assessment

# Measurability Assessment Documents

- [RFQ](#) for independent assessors
- Tools for performing assessments
  - [Measurability Assessment Guidebook](#)
  - [Self-Assessment Form](#)
  - Measurability Assessment Form

# Characteristics of Well-Managed, Low-Risk Programs



# Indicators of a Clear and Unique Mission

## CLEAR AND UNIQUE MISSION

1. Avoids Duplication

2. Problem Definition

3. Logic Model



# Indicators of a Focus on Results

## FOCUS ON RESULTS

4. Evidence-Based

5. Scalability Analysis

6. Strategic Plan

7. Performance Measures

8. Quality Improvement

# Indicators of Sound Financial Management

## FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

9. Risk Assessment

10. Financial Forecast

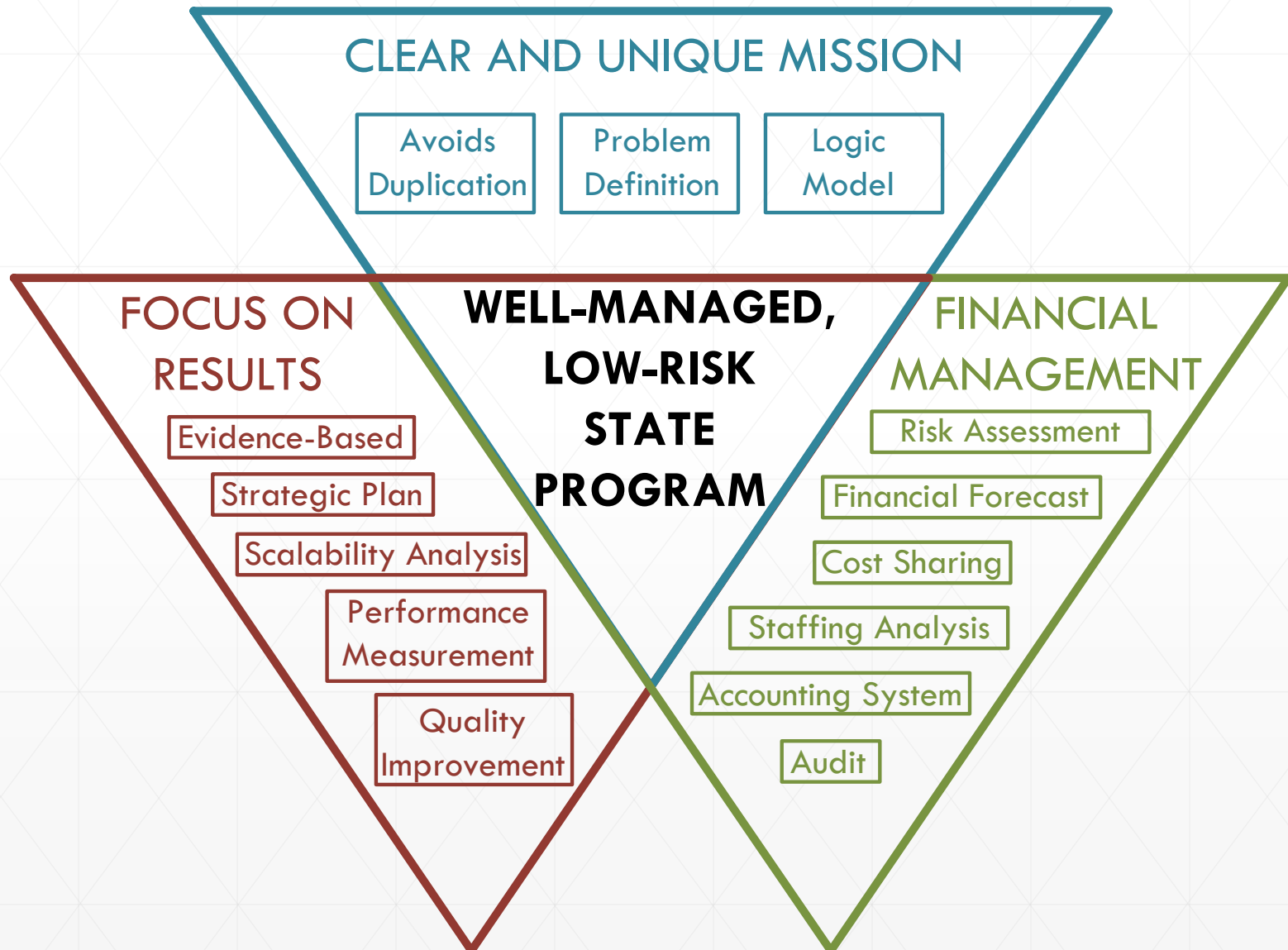
11. Cost Sharing

12. Staffing Analysis

13. Accounting System

14. Audit

# 14 Indicators Represent Characteristics of Well-Managed, Low-Risk Programs



# Guidebook Explains Indicators

- What each indicator is
- Why each indicator is important
- How program can develop capacity for each indicator
- What are key elements of each indicator

# Key Elements of Indicator 1: Avoids Duplication

Key Elements of Indicator 1	Meets	Partially Meets	Does Not Meet
1.1 Program has an inventory that identifies other current programs active in the policy area that address the same goal.			
1.2 Inventory demonstrates how the examined program is unique from the other related programs.			
1.3 Inventory identifies the purpose of each program.			
1.4 Inventory identifies the services, products, or functions each program is providing.			
1.5 Inventory identifies the target population served by each program.			
1.6 Inventory identifies how the program coordinates with other related programs to avoid wasteful competition and duplication.			
1.7 Inventory is updated periodically.			

# Overall Indicator Ratings

Overall Rating for Indicator 1	Meets	Partially Meets	Does Not Meet
1. Program does not duplicate other related programs.			

# Benefits of the Measurability Assessment Program

- Provide the General Assembly and agencies with a tool to inform their policy and budget choices as well as to indicate the extent to which a program's outcomes can be rigorously evaluated
- Means of holding public programs accountable to the public, the executive branch, and lawmakers