

Menu of Major, Minor & Probing Questions

Major Questions – are questions that without an answer, the rater cannot understand the data, learning or future plans of the program.

The questions are not answered leading to these types of questions (information is missing):

- Where is the outcome data that would provide youth with a historical perspective of how the program is working?
- What data supports the learnings?
- What learning supports the future plans identified in this report?

The questions are answered poorly leading to these types of questions (information is present, but confusing):

- What performance measures are necessary to answer the question that you posed? *The performance measures presented do not answer the question posed by the program.*
- How do you explain the data presented in Chart A? *The historical data presented is missing the narrative.*
- What factors could be influencing the attainment of outcomes or changes in other performance measures data? *The data is presented and no explanation of why this is happening has been provided.*
- When can you begin, and how long will these future activities take? *Did not provide time frames for implementing future plans.*
- Why are some of the 18-months of outcome data missing? *The full eighteen months of outcome data was not presented and no explanation was given.*
- What are the future plans?
- What question(s) are you attempting to answer in this report?
- Where is the connection between the data, learnings and/or future plans?

Minor Questions – are questions that, if answered, would enhance the rater's understanding of the data, learning or future plans of the program.

The questions are answered, but a little more clarity would have been helpful.

- What other performance measure would have added value to this report? *Outcome data was presented, but not the additional performance measure.*
- How many participants participated in the program during each time period? *Did not provide the number of people served.*
- How were the criteria for program changes/future plans determined? *Did not document the criteria for change in the report.*

Menu of Major, Minor & Probing Questions

- Why do the percentage achieve differ from the datasheets? *Program may have taken out the missing or did not complete program, but didn't document it in their report.*
- Why did you choose these factors? How would these factors influence the data/learning? *Need a little more context about the meaning of the data/learnings.*
- What is the time frame for the other activity listed in your future plans, is it the same or different? *Partial answer to the time frame segment of the future plans – where the activities are similar and are likely to happen at the same time.*

Probing Questions – are questions that are inquisitive, will spur the program to think deeper about their data or are future focused.

- How would understanding this next question potentially influence the program?
- Have you considered...?
- Program XXX is doing similar work, and is showing positive results, have you talked with them about their evaluation processes?
- What does the national/local data say about this issue?