

EvalTalk Code of Conduct

Thank you for being part of the American Evaluation Association's (AEA's) community forum! **EvalTalk** was established to provide a venue for open peer discussions concerning evaluation issues. We value inclusiveness and diversity, welcoming members at any point in their career, from any context, and representing a wide range of thought and approaches.

By joining and using this discussion list, you agree that you have read and will follow the rules and guidelines set for this peer discussion group. You also agree to keep list posts and discussion topics related to evaluation. **In order to preserve a climate that encourages both civil and fruitful dialogue, AEA reserves the right to suspend or terminate membership on this list for anyone who violates these rules at any time.**

Prohibited Behavior

1. Posting of harassing or off-topic messages/replies. Conversations should be relevant to evaluation and of interest to the users of EvalTalk. The list has a large volume of participants, so relevance to evaluation is key. Off-topic and personal conversations should be taken off-line.
2. Attacking others. The discussions on the list are meant to stimulate conversation, and personal attacks will not be tolerated. Challenge ideas, not people.
3. Use of defamatory, abusive, profane, threatening and offensive language.

Offensive language is defined as:

- Slurs and jokes of any kind that focus on race, ethnicity, gender, religious, or sexual orientation.
- Attribution to racial, ethnic, gender, religious or sexual orientation characteristics that promote devaluing of any member of society.
- Promotion of anything that condones authoritarian values (political systems and practices that devalue any member of society).
- Use of sexually explicit language, content or imagery.

Guidelines and Etiquette for Posts

1. State concisely and clearly the topic of your comments in the subject line. This allows members to respond more appropriately to your posting.
2. Include only the relevant portions of the original message in your reply. Delete any header information, and put your response before the original posting.
3. Only send a message to the entire list when it contains information that can benefit everyone.
4. Send messages such as "thanks for the information" or "me, too" to individuals--not to the entire list.
5. Do not send administrative messages, such as "remove me from the list." Instead, follow instructions to unsubscribe.
6. Please note carefully all items listed in the disclaimer and legal rules below, particularly regarding the copyright ownership of information posted to the list.
7. No personal replies to the list. Instead, send a message directly to the individual.
8. Discussion of fees is not permitted (according to legal advice, could be construed as price fixing).
9. Advertising (including position vacancies) is not permitted *on EvalTalk*. Post information about commercial products only in response to inquiries or at the very least, only when relevant to evaluation.
10. Do not include attachments to your post.
11. Information posted on the list is available for all to see, and comments are subject to libel, slander, and antitrust laws.

Legal Guidelines

EvalTalk is a service of the American Evaluation Association (AEA) for the evaluation community. AEA is not responsible for the opinions and information posted on this discussion list by others. AEA disclaims all warranties with regard to information posted on this list; this disclaimer includes all implied warranties of merchantability and fitness. In no event shall AEA be liable for any special, indirect, or consequential damages or any damages whatsoever resulting from loss of use, data, or profits, arising out of or in connection with the use or performance of any information posted on EvalTalk.

Do not post any defamatory, abusive, profane, threatening, offensive, or illegal language or content. Do not post any information or other material protected by copyright without the permission of the copyright owner. By posting material, the posting party warrants and represents that he or she owns the copyright with respect to such material or has received permission from the copyright owner. In addition, the posting party grants AEA and users of this

list the nonexclusive right and license to display, copy, publish, distribute, transmit, print, and use such information or other material.

Messages should not be posted if they encourage or facilitate members to arrive at any agreement that either expressly or impliedly leads to price fixing, a boycott of another's business, or other conduct intended to illegally restrict free trade. Messages that encourage or facilitate an agreement about the following subjects are inappropriate: prices, discounts, or terms or conditions of sale; salaries; profits, profit margins, or cost data; market shares, sales territories, or markets; allocation of customers or territories; or selection, rejection, or termination of customers or suppliers.

In the event that any inappropriate posting is brought to the Executive Director's attention (alewis@eval.org), AEA will take all appropriate action.

AEA reserves the right to terminate access at any time to any user who does not abide by these guidelines.