



Guidelines for topic selection

A performance evaluation assesses whether:

- a. Agencies or program are complying with applicable laws and legislative intent
- b. Services are provided efficiently and cost-effectively
- c. Programs and services are achieving intended results

The Joint Legislative Oversight Committee may use the following criteria to help guide its process of topic selection:

1. **Applicability and interest.** Does the study have statewide applicability? Does it have a broad-based interest among legislators and other government officials?
2. **Timeliness.** Is the time right for this study? Does the program have a long enough track record to study? Can the study be completed in time for action by the Legislature?
3. **Use.** How will the study be used and by whom?
4. **Potential for cost savings.** Is there a potential for significant cost savings, increased productivity, or elimination of duplication among public agencies?
5. **Research feasibility.** Are there adequate data available to conduct an evaluation? Are resources sufficient to complete the project at this time?
6. **State control.** Does the state have jurisdiction over the program? Does the Legislature have the power to take whatever actions are needed to address the problems found?
7. **Evidence of deficiency.** Is there evidence that suggests the need for improvement?
8. **Suitability.** Is the Office of Performance Evaluations the most appropriate office to do the study?