

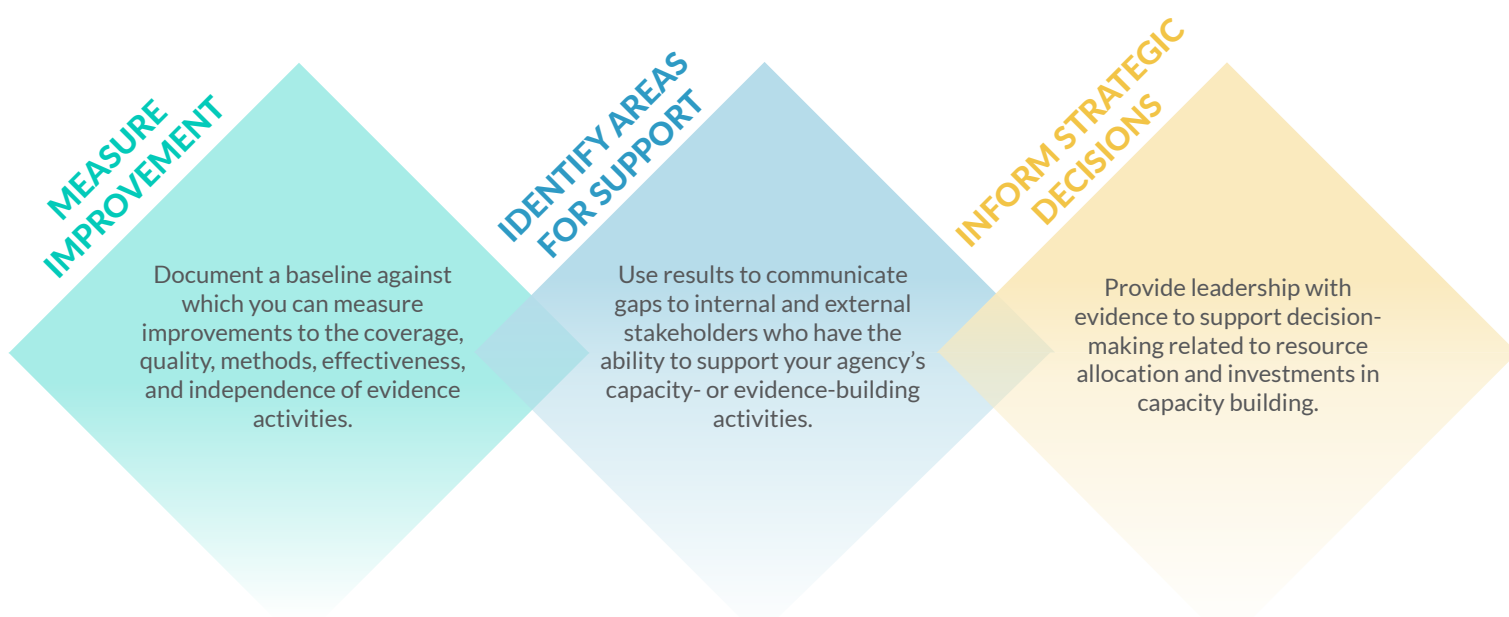
What are the requirements of the capacity assessment?

The Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018 (Evidence Act) requires Chief Financial Officers (CFO) Act agencies to conduct an “assessment of the quality, methods, effectiveness, and independence of the statistics, evaluation, research, and analysis efforts of the agency.” Led by the Evaluation Officer (EO), the capacity assessment must include the following components:

- ◆ A list of the activities and operations that are currently being evaluated and analyzed;
- ◆ The extent to which the agency’s evidence activities support the needs of various divisions within the agency;
- ◆ The extent to which the agency’s evidence activities balance needs between various agency operations and functions;
- ◆ The appropriateness of the methods and combinations of methods used by the agency to address research questions;
- ◆ Agency evaluation and research capacity, including personnel and agency infrastructure, for planning and implementing evaluation activities, disseminating best practices and findings, and incorporating employee views and feedback; and
- ◆ The agency’s ability to assist agency staff and program offices to develop the capacity to use evaluation research and analysis approaches and data in the day-to-day operations.

Agencies have the flexibility to design an approach to conducting the capacity assessment that fits their unique needs, mission, and structure. While not required, sub-agencies, operational divisions, and bureaus within CFO Act agencies are strongly encouraged to carry out their own capacity assessments.

What are some benefits of the capacity assessment?



Visit oes.gsa.gov/toolkits for more information.