Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
Student Services/Prevention Wellness

AODA Prevention Program Assessment Tool
Glossary of Terms

Assess: To judge the quality or importance of AODA policies, procedures, services etc., using quality data.

Coalition: A temporary alliance of institutions, agencies, organizations and people, which has the purpose of joint action relating to AODA prevention.

Community Service: A service provided by students which provides the community with a service or benefit it might not otherwise receive.

Decision Maker: Person{s} in a district or school who is the administrator for the AODA Prevention Program.

Instructional Strategies: Strategies determine the approach a teacher uses to achieve the AODA curriculum learning objectives. Strategies can be classified as direct, indirect, interactive, experiential or independent. Instructional skills within the strategy include techniques such as questioning, discussion, direction-giving, explaining and demonstrating. These are the behaviors a teacher uses to achieve the AODA learner objectives.

Evaluation: The process of carefully assessing or appraising the AODA Prevention Program/ Curricula to determine the effectiveness.

Evidenced-Based: The AODA Prevention Program has been subjected to rigorous field testing and evaluation using validated research methods. The Department of Public Instruction and the U.S. Department of Education recognizes AODA Prevention Programs as evidenced-based if they appear on any of the following lists:

- Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence – Blueprints for Violence Prevention: www.colorado.edu/cspv/blueprints/model/overview.html

- Collaborative for Academic, Social and Emotional Learning – Safe and Sound: An Educational Leader's Guide to Evidenced-Based Social and Emotional Learning Programs: http://www.casel.org/projects_products/safeandsound.php

- Hamilton Fish Institute: http://www.ed.gov/PDFDocs/InterimAR.pdf

- National Institute of Drug Abuse – Preventing Use Among Children and Adolescents: A Research-Based Guide: http://www.drugabuse.gov/pdf/prevention/RedBook.pdf

- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's {SAMHSA} National Registry of Effective Programs and Practices: http://modelprograms.samhsa.gov

- U.S. Department of Education, Office of Safe and Drug Free Schools, "Exemplary Programs at a Glance": www.ed.gov/admins/lead/safety/exemplary01/edlite-exemplarychart.html

The programs that "make the lists" as effective or promising despite different descriptors – select, model, effective, exemplary – have been tested repeatedly, with different groups of students and when implemented with fidelity, which means implemented exactly as written, have been shown to result in the desired outcomes.

Intervention: Action taken to change, modify or stop the path a person is taking that puts them at risk of AOD issues.

Mentoring: Structured programs that match adults/older students with younger students for the purpose of providing academic and/or social/emotional support. Mentoring programs can benefit older and younger at-risk students.

Needs Assessment: A systematic process for examining the current status of behaviors, attitudes, knowledge or conditions. The process has three steps: 1. data collection; 2. data analysis; 3. prioritizing.

Data Collection: Quantitative Data – Numbers, collected by surveys and program assessments.
1. Qualitative Data – Pictures/stories collected by anecdotal comments and focus groups.

Data Analysis
1. Examining raw data for noteworthy patterns.
2. Comparing data to previous years and analyzing for pattern changes over time (trends) and pattern changes in relation to specific populations.
3. Comparing with similar county, state and national data.
4. Interpreting the data for positive and negative patterns, what are the patterns, and what protective- and risk-factors in your community are associated with the patterns.
5. Identifying relationships across data patterns.

Objective: There are two types of objectives:
1. **Outcome Objective** – A measurable change in a behavior, attitude, knowledge or condition within a specific period of time.
2. **Process Objective** – A measurable change in services and products, which will assist in reaching the outcome objective.

Policy: A course of action or guiding principle of a district/school which determines decisions and actions.

Procedure: The established method(s) of a district/school for implementing policy.

Stakeholder: Individuals, groups or agencies/organizations that have an interest in the district/school's AODA prevention program.

Student Families, Student Houses, Small Learning: Structures within a school where smaller groups of students

Communities: are grouped and remain with the same staff for multiple terms or multiple years.