University of California
Agriculture and Natural Resources
Nutrition Policy Institute

Research for healthy food, people and places

SITE-LEVEL ASSESSMENT QUESTIONNAIRE (SLAQ)

An Overview

August/September 2019

What is the purpose of the SLAQs?

The SLAQs are designed to provide comprehensive annual site assessment data for program planning in four settings: Schools, Out-of-School, Early Care and Education, and Small Retail. CDPH will also use aggregated data from the SLAQs for program evaluation purposes.

How were the SLAQs created?

The SLAQs were developed by the Nutrition Policy Institute (NPI) for use by CDPH and local health departments. Existing assessment tools were considered for use, however these tools either did not cover all of the desired content and/or were not designed for evaluation purposes. The SLAQs borrow from many of the existing assessments, with modications to questions and responses, as well as the addition of new questions. The SLAQs underwent several rounds of review by subject matter experts, including professionals from each setting and evaluation researchers. Validity and reliability testing of the SLAQs is currently underway, and NPI is recruiting sites in the applicable settings to participate.

What assessments were used to develop the SLAQs?

Dozens of existing assessments were reviewed during the creation of the SLAQs. Some examples of those reviewed include NAPSACC, School Health Index, WellSAT, CX3 and NEMS. The most useful pieces of these assessments and others were incorporated into the SLAQs.

How can LIAs use the SLAQs?

SLAQs provide comprehensive and structured information about the nutrition and physical activity environment at a site. LIAs and their sites can use the information for several purposes:

1) Understand the strengths and weakness at a site and guide discussion and decisions during program planning

2) Track changes at a site across years

3) Collect data that can be aggregated statewide to understand how nutrition and physical activity environments are associated with program outcomes across California


CDC/Amanda Mills

Visit our website to view the SLAQs and other resources at: https://ucanr.edu/sites/SLAQ/
For questions, please fill out our help form in the "Contact Us" section of the website.