

## Follow-Up Support and Evaluation —The Distinctions—

A learning event is a training or technical assistance event where new concepts or skills are introduced to one or more learners.

|  | Follow-Up Support  | Evaluation   |
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| Relationship to<br>Professional<br>Development | Essential component of effective professional development.   | Essential component of effective professional development.   |
| Definition                                     | Providing or implementing a targeted<br>strategy or set of strategies after a<br>learning event in an effort to reinforce<br>new learning. | Systematic collection of information<br>about the activities, characteristics,<br>and outcomes of a professional<br>development program.   |
| Purpose  | To strengthen transfer of learning.  | To assess and make judgments<br>related to<br>Program effectiveness.<br>Decision making.<br>Future programming.  |
| Time Line                                      | Ongoing over time. Strategies may<br>change as participants' skills and<br>needs change.   | <ul> <li>Predetermined checkpoints before,<br/>during, and after a learning event.</li> <li>May include one or more of the<br/>following:</li> <li>Pre-event assessment.</li> <li>Post-event assessment.</li> <li>Process check during event.</li> <li>Post/Post-event assessment.</li> <li>Delayed post-event assessment</li> </ul> |
| Best When                                      | Planned in advance of the delivery of the learning event.  | Planned in advance of the delivery of the learning event.  |