TOOL 4

Setting Parameters

JOBS FOR THE FUTURE
FISCAL MAPPING PROJECT

OVERVIEW

It is critical to set parameters for your fiscal mapping process. These parameters will be defined by a set of goals that include: the purposes of the fiscal scan, the populations to be included, departments and service areas that are the focus of the project, which of these service areas are of the highest priority to map, and whether the project will include city, state, federal, and/or private sources of funding.

Questions for discussion should include:

- Which populations will this fiscal map cover (age, income status, population characteristics)?
- What types of programs will this fiscal map identify?
- What are the developmental areas of focus that this fiscal map will identify?
- Which funding categories will be captured in this scan?
- What types of services or service settings will be included in this scan?

You may already have the answers to some of these questions based on previous discussion and/or local circumstances. Others may require more discussion among your core stakeholder groups to ensure that the scan meets its intended purposes. This worksheet outlines key questions and considerations that will help you shape and define the parameters of the scan.

Key Question	Example Parameters	Considerations
What target ages or groups should this fiscal management project capture?	Elementary, Middle, High School, Age ranges 8 – 12, 13 – 15, 16 – 18, 18 – 20, 21 – 24	■ Current funding may align to a particular age span. If there is agreement among entities and agencies about the upper and lower bounds of the age spread under consideration, use those parameters. ■ There are trade-offs between using age (8 – 12) vs. stage (middle school) to frame the fiscal mapping work. Discuss which of these best serve the purposes of the scan. ▶ An age frame may illustrate population eligibility for programs and funding streams—regardless of whether school status "fits" age—but age range cutoffs may vary widely, making comparisons and analysis difficult. ▶ A stage frame may provide a simplified framework to help you quickly identify one or more general populations of focus for a given funding stream.
Are there other recipient requirements that you will track to narrow the focus of the scan?	Neighborhood/ Residency status Income eligibility Gender focus	■ The scan may be used to narrow the scope to a certain population or to track additional recipient information useful for later analysis. ▶ While narrowing the scan may bring focus, one caution against this is that narrowing the parameters too finely may result in missing funding streams that could be drawn on, but wouldn't show up if you use more narrow search terms (this can happen, for example, if you use a scan to search for teen pregnancy prevention funding vs. all funding related to healthy youth development).

Target Ages (list categories such as "8-12" or "13-15"):

Other Recipient Requirements (define and list categories such as "Annual median income of under $50,000" or "men of color"):

Programmatic Focus

Key Question	Example Parameters	Considerations
What types of programs will the fiscal map identify?	Positive Youth Development Afterschool Treatment/ Intervention & Crisis Services Rehabilitation/ Corrective Services	- Outlining broad program categories may help you later determine how to shift the mix of funding to better meet your goals. - Stakeholders should agree on common language and definitions that can apply across all agency/service contexts in the scan.
What are the developmental areas of focus that the fiscal map will identify?	Employable Healthy Safe Connected Educated	- Mapping funding streams to developmental goals may help determine critical gaps. In the process, stakeholders should again agree on broad common language and definitions that can apply across all agency/service contexts to be included in the scan. If the community already has an overarching framework of community goals for youth, use that. Otherwise, stakeholders may adopt or adapt from a generic framework.

Program Types (list one of the example parameters mentioned above or a comparable category):

Developmental Areas (list one of the example parameters mentioned above or a comparable area of focus):

Funding Categories

Key Question	Example Parameters	Considerations
What type of expenditures will this fiscal map identify?	**Public** FEDERAL • Mandatory (funds that are prescribed by law) • Discretionary STATE • General Revenue LOCAL • General Revenue **Private** • Local Funders • National Funders	**1.** Determine whether the scan will include public or private funds, or both, as well as the levels of funding for each type. ▸ For discretionary or competitive funding, it is often helpful to also record total value of the relevant funding streams to all communities. This can help stakeholders determine if there are additional resources they can leverage.
What types of flexibility will this fiscal map capture?	**Flexibility** • Administrative Caps • Methods of Evaluation • Performance Measure • Eligibility	**1.** Tracking flexibility provisions can help stakeholders more effectively blend, braid and leverage current and potential funding, allowing for the most flexible funding to be applied to the areas of greatest need that are not adequately covered by other sources of funding. ▸ List and define flexibility provisions that are relevant to the purposes of the scan.
Will this fiscal map capture the flow of funds/fund recipients?	**Fund recipients** • County govt. • City/Municipal govt. • Nonprofit • Schools • Other	**1.** Tracking the flow of funds at each stage of its administration, or identifying fund recipients, may help stakeholders more accurately analyze how funds come into the community and/or identify possible recipients for potential new sources of funding. You can leverage state and local funding data--or for a federal funding stream, explore the Catalog for Federal Domestic Assistance--to obtain this information. **2.** Stakeholders may list the flow of funds in generic categories (from federal to district) and/or specific recipients as the established contact in a given community (which may be particularly helpful for smaller communities with a limited set of partners)

Funding Types (determine types and levels from one of the above options):

Types of Flexibility (list one of the categories from above and define):

Fund Recipients (list one of the categories from above that are most relevant for the purposes of the scan):

Service Descriptions

Key Question	Example Parameters	Considerations
What types of services do identified programs provide?	Academic Support; Basic Needs; College Completion; Counseling; Diversion; Employment/Workforce Training; Financial Literacy; Mentoring; Parent/ Family Engagement Services; Pre-College Preparation; Provider Outreach; Runaway & Homeless Youth Services; Summer; Supportive Services; Training & TA; Truancy; Violence Prevention	■ Communities should pick relevant service categories based on the purposes of the scan.
What service settings are funding streams focused on?	Service Setting • Home • School • Non-profit/Faith-based Organization • Individual Provider/Office • Out of Home/ Residential Placement	■ Service settings are an optional dimension that can be included for purposes of analysis.

Types of Services (list one of the categories from above that apply):

Service Settings (list one of the categories from above that apply):

This list of considerations is not exhaustive but is meant to serve as a starting point for the development of your fiscal map. Your community may decide that other parameters apply—either for the purposes of limiting the scope of the fiscal scan or for identifying dimensions to consider for analysis.