

Maintaining Fidelity

At this time, fidelity monitoring systems should already be in place and fidelity should be reviewed on a regular basis. Please review the *Assessing Fidelity* ([Appendix F3](#)) and *Monitoring and Feedback Systems* ([Appendix G1](#)) resources for more information on how to establish these. Before entering the Sustainment Phase, the program should be consistently meeting an acceptable level of fidelity, as determined through consultation with the developer.

For the Sustainment Phase, it will be important to internalize the fidelity monitoring function within the provider agency to the extent possible. This may involve moving responsibility for monitoring fidelity from the Implementation Team to the agency implementing the service. Assessing and reporting fidelity should still be incorporated as a contract requirement.

Key steps in this process include:

1. Determine how fidelity will be assessed in the long term – who has responsibility for each step and how will it be reported and reviewed?
2. Identify the source of funding for any costs related to continuing to monitor fidelity, such as the costs (if any) for purchasing the fidelity assessment tool(s) and reviewing fidelity issues with the developer (as needed).
3. Determine an acceptable range of fidelity scores on the assessment tool (in conjunction with the developer) if this was not done during the Preparation or Implementation Phases.
4. Develop a plan to increase fidelity if it drops below a certain level:
 - a. Acquire technical assistance or additional professional development from the developer.
 - b. Work with the developer to see if an accommodation to address deficiencies is feasible.