



2025-2026 THE FRAMEWORK FOR PERFORMANCE EXCELLENCE

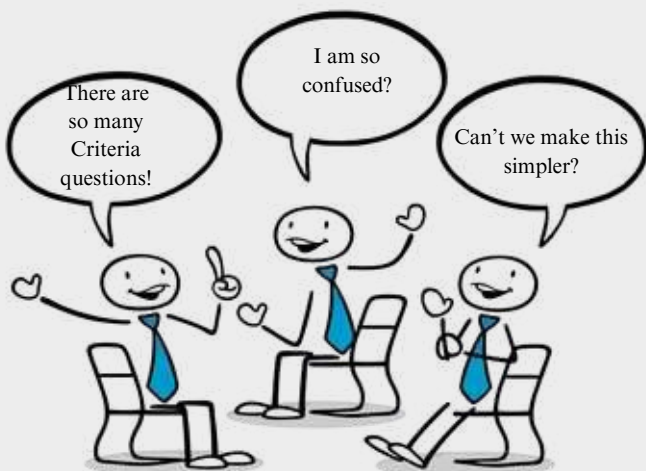


YOU SPOKE.....
WE LISTENED!

WE CHANGED
THE STERLING
AWARD CRITERIA

WHATS NEW:

- Fewer multiple questions
- Greater focus on the DLI of the Approach, Deployment, Learning & Integration (ADLI)
- Framework descriptions vs Criteria questions
- Enhanced Assessment options
- Return to in-person site visits with a hybrid approach



WHATS STAYING:

- The Organizational Profile
- All seven categories
- Score ranges
- Core Values and Concepts
- Continued use of ADLI and Levels, Trends, Comparisons and Integration (LeTCI)