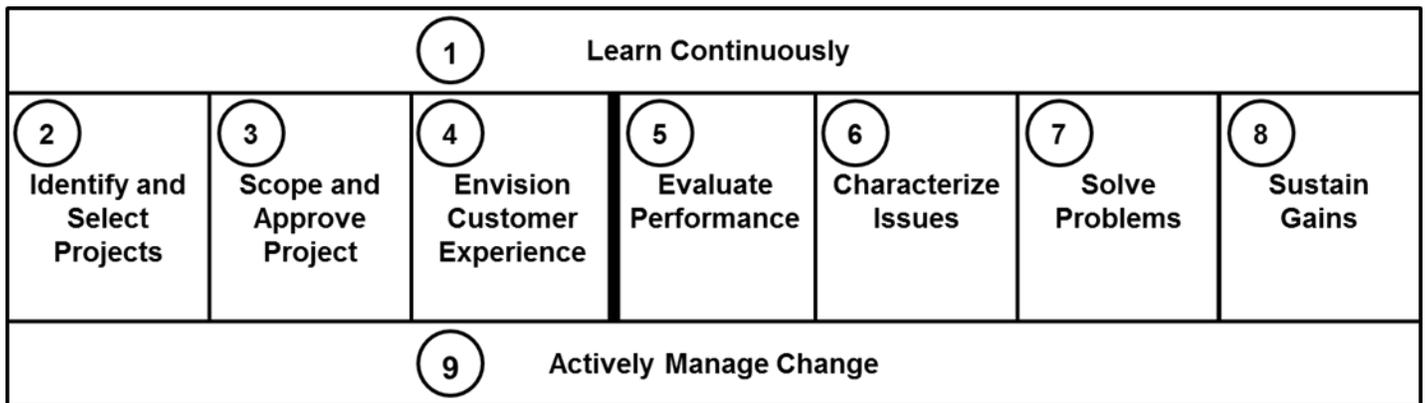


# **State of Colorado Lean Model: Tools and Methods**

# Introduction to Lean

## State of Colorado Lean Model



# Introduction to Lean

## Overview

Lean is a systematic approach to continuous improvement, applying principles and tools to identify and eliminate waste. While Lean was popularized in Japan, Taiichi Ohno, the father of the Toyota Production System, claimed he learned all he needed to know from three distinctly American concepts: the Indy 500, Ford's River Rouge Plant, and supermarket distribution. Toyota consolidated years of thinking into a systematic approach that is relevant not just to factories, but to business processes as well. The president of Toyota's support for the program was driven by the idea of removing waste as a result of two important beliefs that align to our goal of effective, efficient, and elegant state government:

- Waste is disrespectful of humanity because it wastes scarce resources; and
- Waste is disrespectful of individuals because it asks them to do work with no value.

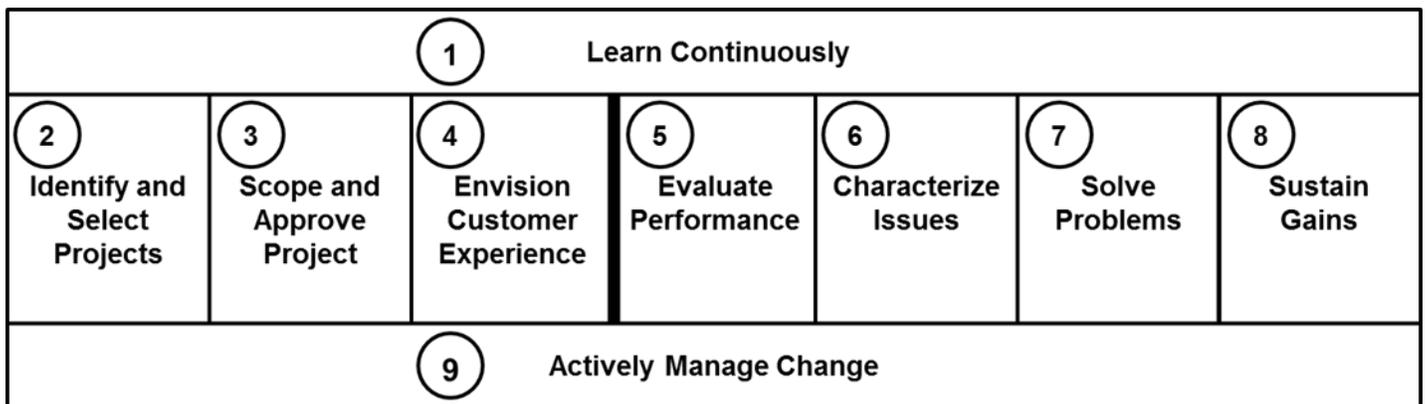
While the list of Lean tools is long, there are just five guiding principles:

1. **Define value** – *value can only be defined by the customer;*
2. **Map value streams** – *documenting information and material flow that provide the product or service citizens require;*
3. **Create continuous flow** – *internally having everything ready as needed for a symphony of service or production;*
4. **Implement pull** – *provide a product or service only when it is needed and no earlier; and*
5. **Strive for perfection** – *relentlessly chase perfection through error proofing and continuous evaluation and improvement.*

Throughout your training you will be introduced to a number of principles, methodologies, and tools. To help organize all the different components of Lean and to assist you in taking the right action at the right time, the State of Colorado has developed its own Lean Model. As you are introduced to each topic, you will also learn how to apply the information within context of this framework.

Before we dive into individual topics, please take time to review the model in greater detail.

## State of Colorado Lean Model



### Key Information

- ✓ Lean is a systematic approach to continuous improvement that aims to make processes more efficient, effective, and elegant by eliminating waste.
- ✓ The Lean methodology can be summarized into five key principles but is supported by numerous tools and techniques.
- ✓ The State of Colorado Lean model will help provide a framework for all Lean tools and methods.

## Additional Resources

Book: [Extreme Government Makeover](#) by Ken Miller

Book: [Lean Thinking: Banish Waste and Create Wealth in Your Corporation](#) by James P. Womack, Daniel T. Jones

Article: <http://www.lean.org/WhatsLean/Principles.cfm>

# Introduction to Lean (cont'd)

## State of Colorado Lean Model

This model will help you understand how Lean components relate and work together to form a continuous improvement cycle.

### 1 - Learn Continuously

*Lean is comprised of a multitude of principles, methodologies, and tools. While you will be armed with the basic tools you need to get started, you will need to continue to refine and deepen your knowledge. Lean cultures are based on continuous improvement and your development is no exception. Leaders in a Lean organization will be expected to continue their learning through self-guided materials or additional course work.*

### Operationalize Lean

*Sponsors, champions, and Lean project leaders work together to operationalize Lean. Operationalizing Lean is not confined to project completion; it also includes daily management and on-going process evaluation. Sponsors and champions will assist project leaders as they execute projects by guiding the project approach, offering insight, and asking probing questions.*

*This process is broken into (7) main phases to help compartmentalize the tools and methodologies, but some tools may span across phases. As you continually advance your Lean knowledge and experience, you will begin to see the ways you might leverage a practice in more than one area.*

#### 2 - Identify and Select Projects

- Identify potential value streams and service areas that could benefit from a Lean approach
- Prioritize these opportunities based on criteria

##### Topics

- Project Selection

#### 3 - Scope and Approve Projects

- Complete project scoping, clarifying opportunity, targeted outcomes and project boundaries
- Gain leadership approval for scope, resources, and schedule

##### Topics

- Project Scoping
- SIPOC

#### 4 - Envision Customer Experience

- Specify value in the customer's eyes
- Articulate the intended customer experience to guide Lean teams' efforts

##### Topics

- Gaining Customer Perspective and Feedback
- Envision Customer Experience

#### 5 - Evaluate Performance

- Clarify customer and strategic needs
- Establish performance baseline
- Narrow focus to key areas that impact process performance

##### Topics

- Value Stream Map
- Lean Process Metrics
- Value Add v. Non-Value Add
- 8 Wastes
- 5 Government Process Pitfalls

#### 6 - Characterize Issues

- Identify and quantify defects and errors impacting performance
- Isolate root causes and prioritize problems

##### Topics

- Process Flow Diagram
- Check Sheet
- Histogram / Pareto
- Cause & Effect / Fishbone
- 5 Whys
- Spaghetti Chart

#### 7 - Solve Problems

- Solve problems as a group
- Implement new methods for executing processes
- Enhance efficiency through workplace organization and cooperation

##### Topics

- 5S
- Kaizen
- A3
- Workload Balancing
- Product Family Matrix
- Cellular Flow
- Kanban

#### 8 - Sustain Gains

- Change the process and workplace to retain gains
- Establish monitoring of improved processes
- Engage all levels in process ownership and improvement

##### Topics

- Visual Management Techniques
- Mistake Proofing
- Lean Daily Management (QDIP)
- Sustainment Checklist

### 9 - Actively Manage Change

*Lean is founded on the idea of continuous improvement, so your organization and team will be improving processes frequently. This change will be beneficial, but it can be difficult as it requires adjusting to a new way of doing things. You will need to understand your stakeholders, develop and execute a communication plan, conduct training, and prepare to manage feedback and resistance.*

#### Search Terms / Related Topics

- 5 Principles of Lean
- Toyota
- Overview
- Waste
- State of Colorado Lean Model
- Tools
- Methodologies
- Continuous Improvement