Institutional Accreditation Standards

STANDARD 2
STUDENT LEARNING, INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS, ASSESSMENT AND PLANNING

Standards 2a and 2b combined into one Standard.

The institution demonstrates that it is accomplishing and can continue to accomplish its mission, goals and program objectives fulfill goals and objectives, and improve performance institutional effectiveness through a regular, comprehensive, and sustainable an ongoing system of assessment and planning. Central to this plan is the systematic and specific assessment of student learning and development through a strategy that measures the student’s knowledge, skills and competencies against institutional and programmatic goals.

2a. ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING AND PLANNING

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS

Relative to this standard, an accredited institution is characterized by:

1. The identification of appropriate integrated student outcomes in the context of institutional goals, program-specific objectives and course objectives.

2. A shared commitment on the part of students, faculty, staff, administration, and governing board to achieve these stated outcomes.

1. A written, comprehensive assessment plan that describes what data (qualitative and/or quantitative) the institution gathers to demonstrate fulfillment of institutional goals and student learning objectives and how and when data are gathered in an ongoing and structured way.

2. Clearly defined and measurable student learning outcomes that support mission fulfillment accompanied by metrics or other means that effectively assess whether or not the institution is achieving its stated objectives.
4.3. **Criteria**  
Student learning outcomes appropriate to the higher education credential to be awarded for evaluating success with respect to student achievement and to the level of education (certificate, associate, baccalaureate, master’s, and/or doctoral study).

3.4. **A written plan of ongoing outcomes assessment** that articulates **Use of multiple means to validate expected student learning outcomes**, and that is subjected to a periodic review process.

5. **Validation**, as a result of using the outcomes assessment plan, that students are achieving the stated outcomes relative to institutional goals, program-specific objectives and course objectives.

5. **Ongoing assessment of operations and services** to evaluate the extent to which these functions are effective in fulfilling the mission and improving institutional effectiveness.

6. **A process whereby these outcome measurements lead to the improvement of teaching and learning**. Meaningful analysis of assessment data and use of results by appropriate constituencies in a clearly documented, ongoing planning process for the purpose of improvement in teaching, learning, and institutional effectiveness.

7. **A written, comprehensive institutional plan** based on assessment results and aligned with realistic resource projections.

7.8. **The ongoing provision of reliable information** to the public regarding institutional performance and student achievement, including graduation rates and employment rates for graduates of professional programs. Such outcomes data must be available via the institution’s website through an easily identified link on the homepage.

### 2b. ASSESSMENT OF INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS AND PLANNING

**ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS**
Relative to this standard, an accredited institution is characterized by...

1. **A written comprehensive assessment document** that describes how the institution measures its effectiveness in an ongoing and structured way.  
   Incorporated into Std. 2, EE 1.

2. **Meaningful analysis of assessment data** and use of results by appropriate constituencies for the purpose of improvement.  Incorporated into Std. 2, EE 6.

3. **Substantial documentation** issuing from its assessment processes that the institution is effective in fulfilling its mission and achieving its goals and objectives.  Incorporated into Std. 2, EE 2.
4. A planning process that is comprehensive, involves representatives of the various institutional constituencies, and is subject to a periodic review process. Incorporated into Std. 2, EE 6.

5. A plan that reflects the institution’s mission, is based on assessment results, and is aligned with realistic resources projections. Moved to Std. 2, EE 7.

6. A system for monitoring institutional progress in achieving planning goals.

7. The ongoing provision of reliable information to the public regarding its performance. Incorporated into Std. 2, EE 8.

Programmatic Accreditation Standards

Standard 2

ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING AND PLANNING

The program demonstrates that it is accomplishing fulfilling and can continue to accomplish fulfill its objectives and improve performance effectiveness through a regular, comprehensive, and sustainable an ongoing system of assessment and planning. Central to this plan is the systematic and specific assessment of student learning and development through a strategy that measures the student’s knowledge, skills, and competencies against institutional goals and programmatic objectives.

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS

Relative to this standard, an accredited program is characterized by …

1. The identification of appropriate integrated student outcomes in the context of institutional goals, program objectives and course objectives.

2. A shared commitment on the part of students, faculty, staff, administration, and governing board to achieve these stated outcomes.

1. A written, comprehensive assessment plan that describes what data (qualitative and/or quantitative) the program gathers to demonstrate fulfillment of student learning objectives and how and when data are gathered in an ongoing and structured way.

2. Clearly defined and measurable student learning outcomes that support mission fulfillment accompanied by metrics or other means that effectively assess whether or not the program is achieving its stated objectives.

3. Criteria Student learning outcomes appropriate to the higher education credential to be awarded for evaluating success with respect to student achievement and to the level of education (certificate, associate, baccalaureate, master’s, and/or
Institutional Accreditation Standards

STANDARD 2
ASSESSMENT AND PLANNING

The institution demonstrates that it is accomplishing and can continue to accomplish its mission, fulfill goals and objectives, and improve institutional effectiveness through an ongoing system of assessment and planning.

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS

1. A written, comprehensive assessment plan that describes what data (qualitative and/or quantitative) the institution gathers to demonstrate fulfillment of institutional goals and student learning objectives and how and when data are gathered in an ongoing and structured way.
2. Clearly defined and measurable student learning outcomes that support mission fulfillment accompanied by metrics or other means that effectively assess whether or not the institution is achieving its stated objectives.

3. Student learning outcomes appropriate to the higher education credential to be awarded (certificate, associate, baccalaureate, master’s, and/or doctoral study).

4. Use of multiple means to validate student learning outcomes.

5. Ongoing assessment of operations and services to evaluate the extent to which these functions are effective in fulfilling the mission and improving institutional effectiveness.

6. Meaningful analysis of assessment data and use of results by appropriate constituencies in a clearly documented, ongoing planning process for the purpose of improvement in teaching, learning, and institutional effectiveness.

7. A written, comprehensive institutional plan based on assessment results and aligned with realistic resource projections.

8. The ongoing provision of reliable information to the public regarding institutional performance and student achievement, including graduation rates and employment rates for graduates of professional programs. Such outcomes data must be available via the institution’s website through an easily identified link on the homepage.

Programmatic Accreditation Standards

Standard 2
ASSESSMENT AND PLANNING

The program demonstrates that it is fulfilling and can continue to fulfill its objectives and improve effectiveness through an ongoing system of assessment and planning.

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS

1. A written, comprehensive assessment plan that describes what data (qualitative and/or quantitative) the program gathers to demonstrate fulfillment of student learning objectives and how and when data are gathered in an ongoing and structured way.

2. Clearly defined and measurable student learning outcomes that support mission fulfillment accompanied by metrics or other means that effectively assess whether or not the program is achieving its stated objectives.

3. Student learning outcomes appropriate to the higher education credential to be awarded (certificate, associate, baccalaureate, master’s, and/or doctoral study).
4. Use of multiple means to validate student learning outcomes.
5. Meaningful analysis of assessment data and use of results by appropriate constituencies in a clearly documented, ongoing planning process for the purpose of improvement in teaching, learning, and program effectiveness.
6. A written, comprehensive program plan based on assessment results and aligned with realistic resource projections.
7. The ongoing provision of reliable information to the public regarding program performance and student achievement, including graduation rates and employment rates for graduates of professional programs. Such outcomes data must be available through an easily identified link on the institution’s website and disaggregated by program.