# Academic Affairs and Standards

## AQIP Categories

| Category 1: |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| **Subcategory 1: Common Learning Outcomes** |
| **1R1** Common Learning Outcomes focuses on the knowledge, skills, and abilities expected of graduates from all programs. Describe the processes for determining, communicating, and ensuring the stated common learning outcomes and who is involved in those processes. This includes, but is not limited to, descriptions of key processes for: |
| • Aligning common outcomes to the mission, educational offerings, and degree levels of the institution (3.B.1, 3.E.2) |
| • Determining common outcomes (3.B.2, 4.B.4) |
| • Articulating the purposes, content, and level of achievement of the outcomes (3.B.2, 4.B.1) |
| • Incorporating into the curriculum opportunities for all students to achieve the outcomes (3.B.3, 3.B.5) |
| • Ensuring the outcomes remain relevant and aligned with student, workplace, and societal needs (3.B.4) |
| • Designing, aligning, and delivering co-curricular activities to support learning (3.E.1, 4.B.2) |
| • Selecting tools/methods/instruments used to assess attainment of common learning outcomes (4.B.2) |
| • Assessing common learning outcomes (4.B.1, 4.B.2, 4.B.4) |

| **Subcategory 2: Program Learning Outcomes** |
|• Based on 1R1, what improvements have been implemented or will be implemented in the next one to three years? (4.B.3) |

## Criteria for Accreditation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria for Accreditation</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1.C</strong> The institution understands the relationship between its mission and the diversity of society.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. The institution addresses its role in a multicultural society.</td>
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<td>2. The institution’s processes and activities reflect attention to human diversity as appropriate within its mission and for the constituencies it serves.</td>
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| **2.D** The institution is committed to freedom of expression and the pursuit of truth in teaching and learning. |

| **2.E** The institution’s policies and procedures call for responsible acquisition, discovery and application of knowledge by its faculty, students and staff. |
| 1. The institution provides effective oversight and support services to ensure the integrity of research and scholarly practice conducted by its faculty, staff, and students. |
| 2. Students are offered guidance in the ethical use of information resources. |
| 3. The institution has and enforces policies on academic honesty and integrity. |

| **3.A** The institution’s degree programs are appropriate to higher education. |
1P2 Program Learning Outcomes focuses on the knowledge, skills, and abilities graduates from particular programs are expected to possess. Describe the processes for determining, communicating, and ensuring the stated program learning outcomes and who is involved in those processes. This includes, but is not limited to, descriptions of key processes for:

- Aligning program learning outcomes to the mission, educational offerings, and degree levels of the institution (3.E.2)
- Determining program outcomes (4.B.4)
- Articulating the purposes, content, and level of achievement of the outcomes (4.B.1)
- Ensuring the outcomes remain relevant and aligned with student, workplace, and societal needs (3.B.4)
- Designing, aligning, and delivering co-curricular activities to support learning (3.E.1, 4.B.2)
- Selecting tools/methods/instruments used to assess attainment of program learning outcomes (4.B.2)
- Assessing program learning outcomes (4.B.1, 4.B.2, 4.B.4)

1R2 What are the results for determining if students possess the knowledge, skills, and abilities that are expected in programs?

- Outcomes/measures tracked and tools utilized
- Overall levels of deployment of assessment processes within the institution
- Summary results of assessments (include tables and figures when possible)
- Comparison of results with internal targets and external benchmarks
- Interpretation of assessment results and insights gained

1I2 Based on 1R2, what improvements have been implemented or will be implemented in the next one to three years? (4.B.3)

Subcategory 3: Academic Program Design

1P3 Academic Program Design focuses on developing and revising programs to meet stakeholders’ needs. Describe the processes for ensuring new and existing programs:

- Courses and programs are current and require levels of performance by students appropriate to the degree or certificate awarded.
- The institution articulates and differentiates learning goals for undergraduate, graduate, post-baccalaureate, post-graduate, and certificate programs.
- The institution’s program quality and learning goals are consistent across all modes of delivery and all locations (on the main campus, at additional locations, by distance delivery, as dual credit, through contractual or consortial arrangements, or any other modality).

3.B The institution demonstrates that the exercise of intellectual inquiry and the acquisition, application, and integration of broad learning and skills are integral to its educational programs.

1. The general education program is appropriate to the mission, educational offerings, and degree levels of the institution.
2. The institution articulates the purposes, content, and intended learning outcomes of its undergraduate general education requirements. The program of general education is grounded in a philosophy or framework developed by the institution or adopted from an established framework. It imparts broad knowledge and intellectual concepts to students and develops skills and attitudes that the institution believes every college-educated person should possess.
current programs meet the needs of the institution and its diverse stakeholders.
This includes, but is not limited to, descriptions of key processes for:

- Identifying student stakeholder groups and determining their educational needs (1.C.1, 1.C.2)
- Identifying other key stakeholder groups and determining their needs (1.C.1, 1.C.2)
- Developing and improving responsive programming to meet all stakeholders’ needs (1.C.1, 1.C.2)
- Selecting the tools/methods/instruments used to assess the currency and effectiveness of academic programs
- Reviewing the viability of courses and programs and changing or discontinuing when necessary (4.A.1)

1R3 What are the results for determining if programs are current and meet the needs of the institution’s diverse stakeholders?

- Outcomes/measures tracked and tools utilized
- Summary results of assessments (include tables and figures when possible)
- Comparison of results with internal targets and external benchmarks
- Interpretation of results and insights gained

113 Based on 1R3, what improvements have been implemented or will be implemented in the next one to three years?

Subcategory 4: Academic Program Quality
1P4 Academic Program Quality focuses on ensuring quality across all programs, modalities, and locations. Describe the processes for ensuring quality academic programming. This includes, but is not limited to, descriptions of key processes for:

- Determining and communicating the preparation required of students for the specific curricula, programs, courses, and learning they will pursue (4.A.4)

3. Every degree program offered by the institution engages students in collecting, analyzing, and communicating information; in mastering modes of inquiry or creative work; and in developing skills adaptable to changing environments.

4. The education offered by the institution recognizes the human and cultural diversity of the world in which students live and work.

5. The faculty and students contribute to scholarship, creative work, and the discovery of knowledge to the extent appropriate to their programs and the institution’s mission

3.C The institution has the faculty and staff needed for effective, high-quality programs and student services
5. Instructors are accessible for student inquiry.

3.D The institution provides support for student learning and effective teaching.

1. The institution provides student support services suited to the needs of its student populations.
2. The institution provides for learning support and preparatory instruction to address the academic needs of its students. It has a process for directing entering students to courses and programs for which the students are adequately prepared.
3. The institution provides academic advising suited to its programs and the needs of its students.
• Evaluating and ensuring program rigor for all modalities, locations, consortia, and when offering dual-credit programs (3.A.1, 3.A.3, 4.A.4)
• Awarding prior learning and transfer credits (4.A.2, 4.A.3)
• Selecting, implementing, and maintaining specialized accreditation(s) (4.A.5)
• Assessing the level of outcomes attainment by graduates at all levels (3.A.2, 4.A.6)
• Selecting the tools/methods/instruments used to assess program rigor across all modalities

1R4 What are the results for determining the quality of academic programs?

• Outcomes/ measures tracked and tools utilized
• Summary results of assessments (include tables and figures when possible)
• Comparison of results with internal targets and external benchmarks
• Interpretation of results and insights gained

114 Based on 1R4, what improvements have been implemented or will be implemented in the next one to three years?

5: Academic Student Support
1P5 Academic Student Support focuses on systems designed to help students be successful. Describe the processes for developing and delivering academic support to students. This includes, but is not limited to, descriptions of key processes for:

• Identifying underprepared and at-risk students, and determining their academic support needs (3.D.1)
• Deploying academic support services to help students select and successfully complete courses and programs (3.D.2)
• Ensuring faculty are available for student inquiry (3.C.5)

4. The institution provides to students and instructors the infrastructure and resources necessary to support effective teaching and learning (technological infrastructure, scientific laboratories, libraries, performance spaces, clinical practice sites, museum collections, as appropriate to the institution’s offerings).

5. The institution provides to students guidance in the effective use of research and information resources.

4.A The institution demonstrates responsibility for the quality of its educational programs.

1. The institution maintains a practice of regular program reviews.
2. The institution has policies that assure the quality of the credit it accepts in transfer.
3. The institution maintains specialized accreditation for its programs as appropriate to its educational purposes.
4. The institution maintains and exercises authority over the prerequisites for courses, rigor of courses, expectations for student learning, access to learning resources, and faculty qualifications for all its programs, including dual credit programs. It assures that its dual credit courses or programs for high school students are equivalent in learning outcomes and levels of achievement to its higher education curriculum.
What are the results for determining the quality of academic integrity?

- Effectiveness and comprehensiveness of support services
- Select the tools/methods/instruments used to evaluate the effectiveness and comprehensiveness of support services
- Understanding the availability of academic support services (3.C.2)
- Assessing the impact of academic support services (3.C.2, 3.D.3)
- Ensuring that the tools and/or support services are accessible, comprehensive, and effective (3.C.3, 3.D.3)
- Aligning academic integrity with the needs of students and faculty (4.C.3)

Based on the results of all the above efforts, the following recommendations can be implemented:

1. Implement the results of all the above efforts (4.C.3)
2. Continuous monitoring of results and improvements (4.C.4)
3. Evaluation of the outcomes and tools utilized (4.C.4)
4. Ensuring that the tools and/or support services are accessible, comprehensive, and effective (4.C.4)

The institution evaluates the success of its efforts through monitoring the outcomes and tools utilized. School specifics are emphasized in determining the need for further improvement in academic integrity. The institution's efforts to enhance academic integrity are ongoing and demonstrate a commitment to improving the educational environment and protecting students from academic dishonesty.
- Outcomes/measures tracked and tools utilized
- Summary results of measures (include tables and figures where appropriate)
- Comparison of results with internal targets and external benchmarks
- Interpretation of results and insights gained

116 Based on IR6, what improvements have been implemented or will be implemented in the next one to three years?

2. The institution assesses achievement of the learning outcomes that it claims for its curricular and co-curricular programs.
3. The institution uses the information gained from assessment to improve student learning.
4. The institution’s processes and methodologies to assess student learning reflect good practice, including the substantial participation of faculty and other instructional staff members.