


## Excellent Practice in Student Learning Assessment Institutional Certification Program

IUPUI Assessment Institute  
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## OVERVIEW

This session introduces the New Leadership Alliance for Student Learning and Accountability's institutional certification program – EPSLA - which recognizes institutional commitment and high-level performance in gathering, reporting, and using evidence to improve student learning outcomes.

Session participants will learn about the program and what the expectations for certification are.




## HISTORY OF PROJECT

- ✔ Concept paper – modeled after the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program
- ✔ Advisory Board formation
- ✔ Hewlett funding – Advisory Board expansion, Reviewers selected
- ✔ Pilot 1 – summer/fall 2010
- ✔ Meeting in DC – winter 2010
- ✔ Revisions and Technology integration – winter/spring 2011
- ✔ Pilot 2 – summer/fall 2011
- ✔ Launch – early 2012



## ADVISORY BOARD

**Trudy Banta** - IUPUI  
**Charlie Blaich** - Center of Inquiry in the Liberal Arts at Wabash College  
**Marilee Bresciani** - San Diego State University  
**Peter Ewell** - National Center for Higher Education Management Systems  
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**Pamela Menke** - Miami Dade College  
**Randy Swing** - Association for Institutional Research  
**Linda Suskie** - Middle States Commission on Higher Education



## REVIEWERS/SELECTION COMMITTEE

**Daniel Bernstein** - University of Kansas  
**Linda Halpern** - James Madison University  
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**Robert Mundhenk** - AALHE  
**Ephraim Schechter** - HigherEdAssessment.com  
**Jeff Seybert** - Johnson County Community College  
**Steve Weisler** - Hampshire College  
**Carrie Zelna** - North Carolina State University



## PILOT INSTITUTIONS

<b>Barton College</b>	<b>Middlesex Community College</b>
<b>Camden County College</b>	<b>St. Petersburg College</b>
<b>Capella University*</b>	<b>United States Naval Academy</b>
<b>Connecticut College</b>	<b>University of Central Florida</b>
<b>Elon University</b>	<b>University of San Francisco</b>
<b>James Madison University</b>	<b>Westminster College</b>
<b>Keene State College*</b>	



## WHAT IS BEING CERTIFIED?

**Commitment to evidence-based improvement of student learning through high-level performance in gathering, reporting, and using evidence.**

## INSTITUTIONS MUST . . .

- ✔ Have an ongoing and integrated commitment to achieving student learning outcomes.
- ✔ Have explicit and ambitious overall student learning outcomes for all undergraduate students.
- ✔ Expect that academic and cocurricular programs also have explicit and ambitious student learning outcomes which align with and support the institution's overall learning outcomes.
- ✔ Routinely and systematically gather evidence of achievement of student learning outcomes at all levels of the institution.

## INSTITUTIONS MUST . . .

- ✔ Know how well student learning outcomes were achieved at all levels of the institution.
- ✔ Analyze and use evidence about student learning outcomes to make changes and improvements at all levels of the institution.
- ✔ Report on student learning outcomes efforts and results to internal and external stakeholders.

## APPLICATION

- ✔ Answering questions
- ✔ Summarizing practices and processes
- ✔ Submitting evidence and documentation
- ✔ Electronic platform hosted by TaskStream
- ✔ Reviewed by 3 expert reviewers
- ✔ Demanding, rigorous

## APPLICATION SECTIONS


- ✔ Contact information
- ✔ Institution description
- ✔ Student learning outcomes
- ✔ Assessment process
- ✔ Reporting

## STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

- ✔ Please list or link to your institution's overall student learning outcomes – the shared set of outcomes pertaining to all undergraduate students regardless of degree or major. Also describe how they were established and how they are shared with stakeholders.
- ✔ Please list or link to your institution's student learning outcomes for each academic program. Show how these outcomes align with and support the institution's overall learning outcomes. Also describe how they were established and how they are shared with stakeholders.
- ✔ Please list or link to your institution's student learning outcomes for each cocurricular program. Show how these align with and support the institution's overall learning outcomes. Also describe how they were established and how they are shared with stakeholders.


## ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Please describe the institution-wide student learning outcomes assessment process implemented on campus. "Institution-wide student learning outcomes assessment process" refers to the institution's comprehensive, overall assessment plan that details how student learning is assessed across the entire institution, including **overall** student learning outcomes expected of all students, **academic program** outcomes, and **cocurricular program** outcomes. It is a plan that demonstrates how student learning outcomes assessment is integrated across the entire institution. Please also provide links to or upload a copy of your institution's assessment plan and any other material that support the claims made in your responses.




## ASSESSMENT PROCESS

- ☑ Please describe how the institution-wide student learning outcomes assessment process aligns with the institution's strategic planning and budgeting processes.
- ☑ How would you describe your institution's leadership commitment to student learning outcomes assessment? How is this commitment made public and communicated?
- ☑ How would you describe your institution's leadership commitment to student learning outcomes accountability? How is this commitment made public and communicated?




## ASSESSMENT PROCESS

- ☑ How pervasive is student learning outcomes assessment across the entire institution? How do you know this? Please describe and provide evidence.
- ☑ How collaborative is student learning outcomes assessment across the entire institution? How do you know this? Please describe and provide evidence.
- ☑ How, and by whom, was the institution wide student learning outcomes assessment process established?




## REPORTING

- ☑ How does your institution report on its assessment efforts and findings – **overall, academic program, and cocurricular program** – to **internal** audiences? Please address the following in your response:
  - Which internal audiences are reported to?
  - What is reported?
  - How and in what ways are internal audiences reported to?
- ☑ How does your institution report on its assessment efforts and findings – **overall, academic program, and cocurricular program** – to **external** audiences? Please address the following in your response:
  - Which external audiences are reported to?
  - What is reported?
  - How and in what ways are internal audiences reported to?




## CRITERIA

- ☑ 20 statements
- ☑ Evaluated in rubrics



## WHY APPLY?

- ☑ Demonstrates leadership in assessment and accountability
- ☑ Recognizes outstanding work – recognition for the institution
- ☑ Mechanism for improvement – provides feedback
- ☑ Participation is voluntary
- ☑ The greater the participation the greater change in the community



## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- ☑ Would your school consider applying?
  - Why or why not?
  - What would persuade you to apply?
- ☑ What is your initial reaction to this project?
  - Strengths, weaknesses?
- ☑ Would your institution pay for this?
  - How much?
- ☑ What you want to be a reviewer?
  - How would you need to be compensated?

## STAY CONNECTED TO THE ALLIANCE

To stay connected to the Alliance and receive our [newsletter](#) please visit [www.newleadershipalliance.org](http://www.newleadershipalliance.org) and click on the “Get Involved” tab.

We are also on [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#).