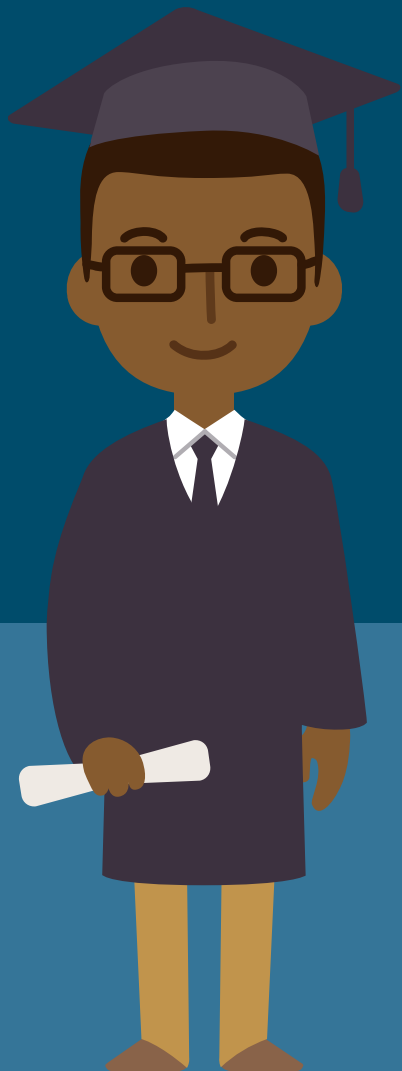


# AAC&U's VALUE System for Assessment

With the VALUE scoring collaborative, we're creating a nationwide effort to change the conversation about higher education quality, equity, and assessment to help educators use learning outcomes evidence to improve student success.



We're changing the  
**conversation**

The VALUE approach is both evidence-based and evidence-generating. It is a methodologically sound, authentic, and creative response to the need for direct evidence of the quality of student learning across critical skills and abilities associated with success in life and work. Rather than a standardized test divorced from the curriculum, the VALUE Institute bases its assessment of student learning achievement on the actual work that students produce in response to assignments from the curriculum or co-curriculum in whatever institution(s) the student attended.

## How Should We Measure Learning?

Knowledge of  
Human Cultures &  
the Physical &  
Natural World

Intellectual and  
Practical Skills

Personal and  
Social  
Responsibility

Integrative and  
Applied Learning

### Students Matter.



"Our faculty members have shared the rubrics with students to help them see what different levels of learning look like."

-David Switzer, St. Cloud State University

### Faculty Matter.



"By using the VALUE rubrics...we have really changed the tenor of assessment from one of "policing" faculty teaching practices to enriching conversations about teaching and learning and how assessment can inform those conversations."

-D. Alexis Hart, Allegheny College

### Assignments Matter.



"The focus on sampling work that faculty assign and students complete... allowed us to highlight the faculty role in assessing student learning while creating spaces for faculty to learn more about assessment and assignment design."

-Jeanne Mullaney, Community College of Rhode Island

VALUE's 16 rubrics are the means to measure progress toward broadly shared Essential Learning Outcomes. These tools outline four levels of performance with higher scores denoting increasingly complex and sophisticated levels of proficiency. Higher scores on the scale—defined as a mark of 3 or 4—indicate the level of proficiency required of college graduates from all institutions in preparation for success.

## VALUE Rubrics:



"Demonstrating quality and the achievement of learning outcomes is more important than ever. We are proud to be advancing new approaches to meaningful and effective assessment as a means of delivering on the promise of American higher education."

-Lynn Pasquerella, AAC&U

## VALUE Rubric Downloads

**622,000+**

individual VALUE rubrics downloaded

**98,000+**

"clicks" on the website from

**2,744**

colleges & universities in

**141**

countries

## VALUE database (2014-2019)

**55,520**

pieces of scored student work from

**142**

Institutions

**42**

2-Year institutions

**29**

Private institutions

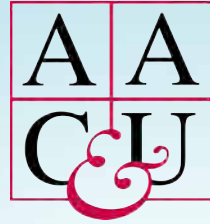
**100**

4-Year institutions

**113**

Public institutions

Learn how your institution can use direct evidence of learning to improve student success at [www.aacu.org/value](http://www.aacu.org/value), or email [value@aacu.org](mailto:value@aacu.org)



Association of American Colleges and Universities

## DISCOVER THE VALUE OF MEMBERSHIP

Join AAC&U Today!

### Welcome to the Association of American Colleges and Universities

When a college or university joins AAC&U, the entire campus community becomes part of a global network of educators committed to extending the advantages of a liberal education to all students, regardless of academic specialization or intended career.

AAC&U functions as a catalyst and facilitator, forging links among presidents, administrators, faculty, and professional staff engaged in institutional and curricular development. Through a broad range of activities, AAC&U reinforces the collective commitment to liberal education at the national, local, and international levels. Its high-quality programs, publications, research, meetings, institutes, public outreach efforts, and campus-based projects help individual institutions ensure that the quality of students' learning is central to their work as they evolve to meet new economic and social challenges.

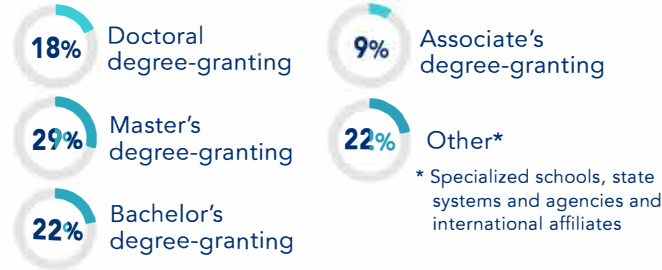
[www.aacu.org/join](http://www.aacu.org/join)

@ memberservices@aacu.org

202-387-3760

### Profile of AAC&U Membership

- Of the **1,000** member institutions:



- Located in all **50** states, the District of Columbia, and **3** US Territories
- Our members enroll over **50%** of all US undergraduates
- International members in **25** countries



### The AAC&U Difference

- AAC&U is the only national higher education organization solely focused on strengthening the quality of undergraduate education across all areas of study, student pathways, and educational settings.
- AAC&U is the only national higher education organization that brings institutions from all sectors of higher education together to share ideas, experiences, challenges, and best practices related to undergraduate learning.

### Why Join AAC&U?

- AAC&U champions faculty-engaged, evidence-based, sustainable models and strategies for promoting **quality** in undergraduate education.
- AAC&U advances **equity** across higher education in service to academic excellence and social justice.
- AAC&U leads institutions and communities in articulating and demonstrating the **value** of liberal education for work, life, global citizenship, and democracy.
- AAC&U catalyzes reform in higher education to emphasize **discovery and innovation** as fundamental aspects of a liberal education.

### Select Initiatives

#### AAC&U Inclusive Excellence Commission

This initiative of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute challenges US colleges and universities to substantially and sustainably increase their capacity for inclusion of all students, especially those from groups underrepresented in science.

#### Advocacy for Liberal Education

Through a range of advocacy efforts within higher education and beyond, AAC&U champions the economic and civic value of liberal education, its relevance to students' career aspirations, and its essential role in equipping students for lifelong learning, civic involvement, and personal flourishing.

#### The Presidents' Trust

A network of higher education leaders that is committed to advocating for the vision, values, and practices that connect liberal education with the needs of an increasingly diverse student body, a global workforce, and thriving communities.

#### STEM Central

This online networking platform serves as a resource for STEM faculty who are working to improve and transform undergraduate STEM education in the US through the study and practice of broadening participation.

#### Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation Campus Centers (TRHT)

AAC&U works with higher education institutions to develop self-sustaining, community-integrated TRHT Campus Centers that prepare the next generation of leaders to eliminate racism and dismantle the belief in a hierarchy of human value.

#### The VALUE Institute

The Institute provides external validation of institutional assessments of student learning. Certified faculty and other educators use the VALUE rubrics to score samples of student work by participating entities.



photos by Mike Ferguson



Association  
of American  
Colleges and  
Universities

## DISCOVER THE VALUE OF MEMBERSHIP

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@ [memberservices@aacu.org](mailto:memberservices@aacu.org)

☎ 202-387-3760

### The Benefits of Membership

#### Events and Professional and Enrichment Opportunities

**AAC&U Annual Meeting** offers a deep understanding of current higher education research, national trends, and innovative approaches. Presidents, academic administrators, faculty members, educational policy leaders, and professional staff attend this premier event.

#### Diversity, Equity & Student Success Conference

focuses on building coalitions and breaking down institutional siloes to build more just and equitable campuses and communities.

**Global Learning Conference** explores practical and theoretical approaches to global learning at the course, departmental, and institutional levels.

#### Transforming STEM Higher Education Conference

questions and examines the entire range of contemporary challenges to—and opportunities for—STEM higher education reform.

#### General Education, Pedagogy, and Assessment Conference

focuses on efforts to create intentional and integrated general education programs, to assess current practices, and to generate evidence of high-quality learning for all students.

**Institute on ePortfolios** provides a new model featuring a year-long engagement opportunity to actualize an ambitious strategy to broaden student engagement with ePortfolios.

**Institute on Teaching to Increase Diversity and Equity in STEM (TIDES)** offers a unique opportunity for STEM faculty to build capacity and self-efficacy in exploring the root sources, codes, and causes of minority group underrepresentation in STEM.

**PKAL STEM Leadership Institute** is designed for both early- and mid-career STEM faculty engaged in leading projects aimed at transforming undergraduate STEM education in their classrooms, departments, and institutions.

#### Institute on General Education and Assessment

provides opportunities for campus teams to improve the design and assessment of their general education programs.

#### Institute on High-Impact Practices and Student Success

draws on evidence-based research that demonstrates a positive relationship between student participation in high-impact practices (HIPs) and improved student outcomes and higher learning gains.

#### Institute on Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation

**Campus Centers** helps campus teams identify evidence-based strategies that support their vision of what their communities will look, feel, and be like when the belief in a hierarchy of human value no longer exists.

#### Institute on Integrative Learning and Signature Work

is intended for college and university teams interested in developing faculty and staff leadership to advance programs and curricula that build students' capacity to integrate their learning as well as their experiences inside and outside the classroom to prepare them for life, work, and citizenship.

## Join AAC&U Today!



### Stay in the Know

- **Liberal Education:** With compelling content and high-quality writing and analysis, the award-winning *Liberal Education* magazine offers thought leadership as well as practical, hands-on advice on a mix of topics integral to AAC&U's work.
- **Liberal Education Blog:** AAC&U's online platform for timely thought leadership that features a wide range of voices
- **AAC&U News:** AAC&U's monthly e-newsletter highlighting member campuses and providing updates on events and offerings



### Access Resources



**Books/Publications:** Receive a discount on books and publications in the AAC&U bookstore.



**Data, Analysis and Research:** Access information, data and resources on higher education topics.



**Free Webinars:** Gain complimentary access to live and on-demand webinars focused on timely and relevant topics.

**For more information about AAC&U membership, contact Brenda L. Fogg, Director of Membership, 202-888-2241 or [memberservices@aacu.org](mailto:memberservices@aacu.org).**

**The AAC&U Mission** is to advance the vitality and public standing of liberal education by making quality and equity the foundations for excellence in undergraduate education in service to democracy.