

Policy Title: **Student Learning Outcomes and Assessment**

Policy Number: *0-03-0612*

Applies to: All OHSU academic programs, departments and schools

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**1.0 POLICY STATEMENT**

This policy ensures that each academic program and/or department conferring degrees at OHSU is setting measurable goals for student learning, and that those goals are assessed in a regular, systematic and rigorous manner.

OHSU requires each academic program or department to set measurable goals for student learning for each approved degree and certificate program, to assess those goals, and to use the assessment findings to improve teaching, learning and the curriculum.

The expected learning outcomes will be accessible to current and prospective students.

Programs are required to initially submit an Assessment Plan with their student learning outcomes (SLOs) to be approved by the OHSU Assessment Council. Once the Assessment Plan and student learning outcomes are approved, programs will be required to demonstrate regular, systematic review and revision of their student learning outcomes and associated assessment plans on an annual basis. Departmental faculty will revise, delete or add to a program's SLOs as appropriate to ensure that they remain dynamic and relevant.

Joint and affiliate programs that demonstrate sufficient evidence that the partnering institution engages in a regular, systematic review of the academic program's assessment plan, will not be required to engage in the full OHSU Assessment Council requirements. Joint and affiliate programs will need to request a waiver of these requirements from the OHSU Assessment Council chair.

**2.0 DEFINITIONS**

2.1 **Assessment** is the systematic collection and analysis of data and information to improve student learning to answer: How will faculty know students learned what was intended? Assessments include both direct and indirect measures of learning; and a good assessment plan includes both.

2.2 A **Student Learning Outcome** is a statement that begins with an action verb selected to reflect the level of learning expected in one of three learning domains (i) knowledge, (ii) attitudes, behaviors, and values; or (iii) skills. The statements are used to design the learning environment and process to attain the desired outcomes.

2.3 A **Joint Program** is a degree granting program offered in conjunction with OHSU and another, partnering college or university accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU).

2.4 An **Affiliate Program** is a partnership between a college or university accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) and OHSU. Oversight of program administration including recruitment, degree standards, and teaching and learning practices are the responsibility of the partnering institution. OHSU provides access to resources such as clinics, laboratories, industry professionals and other university services to enhance the program.

### 3.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

The Faculty has overall responsibility for developing learning outcomes and assessments for programs and courses.

The Dean of each school shall be responsible for ensuring that all programs have an assessment plan, are conducting regular and systematic assessment of student performance, and are using assessment findings to improve teaching, learning and the curricula as needed.

Each school will maintain a record of assessment results and program changes based on assessment information that will be shared annually with the Provost. Schools will submit an annual report summarizing assessment of programs and the implementation of improved methods in teaching, learning and curricula amendments.

### 4.0 PROCEDURES

The Provost's Office will oversee the implementation of this policy including the development of templates for program assessment plans and annual assessment reports.

### 5.0 RELATED POLICIES

N/A

### 6.0 KEY SEARCH WORDS

Student Learning Outcomes, Assessment, Academic Programs, accreditation
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### 7.0 REVISION HISTORY

05/31/2012	1.0	New Policy Statement
2/19/2014	2.0	Policy Revised

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**Responsible Officer:** Provost, Office of the Provost

**Policy Contact:** Office of Assessment and Evaluation, 503-494-6567

**Supersedes:** N/A