

# Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges

## Academics

POLICY NAME: Assessment Policy and Procedures

POLICY NUMBER: 4220

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### **A. PURPOSE**

To establish policies and procedures for College assessment systems.

### **B. DEFINITIONS**

1. **Assessment:** The systematic process of documenting and using empirical data on the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and beliefs to refine programs and improve student learning.

### **C. POLICY**

#### **1. Assessment System**

- 1.1. The Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges believes that an effective assessment system is essential because it promotes accountability, informing program development and review, assuring that students achieve established educational course and program goals, and providing evidence of institutional progress over time. In addition, an effective assessment system provides an effective review of its student support services.
- 1.2. In recognition of the importance of assessment, each College shall engage in a college-wide assessment system of student learning, program quality, and institutional effectiveness to enhance the quality and excellence of learning and teaching for students and ensure a culture of continuous improvement.
- 1.3. The assessment system in place at each College shall meet the Higher Learning Commission Criteria for Accreditation and any specialty accreditations held by the College in addition to requirements outlined in this policy.

#### **2. Assessment System Measures**

- 2.1. An effective assessment system will rely on measures that are reliable, valid, and practical; incorporate a variety of direct and indirect

measurements; use appropriate technologies; and exhibit the multiple roles of assessment.

- 2.2. Examples of direct measurements include, but are not limited to:
- Standardized tests used to assess general education, academic majors, and professional capstone courses
  - Portfolios scored with rubrics
  - Scored exhibitions, authentic artifacts, and/or performances
- 2.3 Examples of indirect measurements include, but are not limited to:
- Interviews of students, alumni or focus groups
  - Surveys of students, graduates, or employees
  - Self-reported job placement data

## **FORMS/APPENDICES:**

None

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## **SOURCE:**

**Policy Adopted:** March 2008

**Policy Revised:** April 2009, January 2011, July 2015, July 2021