

1. Title

Student Learning Outcomes Assessment

2. Rule and Regulation

Sec. 1 Board Commitment. The Board of Regents and U. T. System Administration are committed to continuous improvement for the purpose of establishing best practices as a means of ensuring institutional effectiveness and ongoing enhancement of all academic programs. Assessing student learning -- the outcomes of an institution's educational programs -- is at the heart of these efforts.

Sec. 2 Purpose. The purpose of this Rule is (a) to ensure that U. T. System institutions design and implement appropriate strategies for assessing student learning outcomes and for the use of assessment findings for continuous improvement of teaching and learning, and (b) to set forth principles and guidelines for the implementation of learning outcomes assessment at U. T. System institutions.

Sec. 3 Principles and Guidelines.

3.1 Student learning outcomes assessment will be used to inform the continuous improvement of teaching and learning in all degree programs offered at each U. T. System institution.

3.2 Assessment of student learning outcomes at the program level are to be designed, implemented, and interpreted by the faculty most directly associated with the program.

Rationale. Outcomes assessment is based on explicit learning goals or expectations associated with particular educational programs. It involves the systematic collection and analysis of data -- both qualitative and quantitative -- to determine how well student performance matches goals or expectations. The major purpose of outcomes assessment is to improve student learning.

Sec. 4 Requirements.

- 4.1 U. T. System institutions shall develop and implement methods for assessing student learning outcomes in all undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs with the expectation of establishing best practices.
- 4.2 Assessment findings will be systematically analyzed and used as a basis for making changes in curriculum, instruction, advising, or other aspects of an educational program to improve student learning and success.

Sec. 5 Implementation and Reporting.

- 5.1 Implementation of this Rule at the U. T. System institutions is to be consistent with the *Principles of Accreditation: Foundations for Quality Enhancement* as promulgated by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC).
- 5.2 On a schedule that aligns with its reaffirmation of accreditation with SACSCOC, each institution shall submit an assessment report on student learning outcomes to the Office of Academic Affairs or to the Office of Health Affairs.

3. Definitions

None

4. Relevant Federal and State Statutes

None

5. Relevant System Policies, Procedures, and Forms

None

6. Who Should Know

Presidents and Provosts/Chief Academic Officers
Chancellor and Executive Vice Chancellors
Board of Regents

7. System Administration Office(s) Responsible for Rule

Office of Academic Affairs
Office of Health Affairs

8. Dates Approved or Amended

May 14, 2015

9. Contact Information

Questions or comments regarding this Rule should be directed to:

- bor@utsystem.edu