

Using Results for Improvement

Assessment is most valuable when it leads to action. Once data has been collected and analyzed, departments should use the results to inform decisions, plan improvements, and document changes. This page outlines how to interpret assessment findings, develop action plans, and close the loop in a way that supports continuous improvement and accreditation standards.

Data-Informed Decisions

Assessment findings—whether quantitative or qualitative—should guide meaningful decisions about curriculum, instruction, and program design. This session explores how to interpret results and use them to identify strengths, gaps, and opportunities for improvement.

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/T8dcTU8w0AU?si=kEtdMECLsZoHlx0M>

Download Slides: [***Data-Informed Decisions \(PDF\)***](#)

Topics Covered:

- Reviewing direct and indirect assessment results
 - Comparing performance to benchmarks
 - Identifying trends across courses or cohorts
 - Using data to support curricular changes
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Planning Actions for Continuous Improvement

This session focuses on translating assessment findings into actionable steps. Departments are encouraged to develop targeted plans that address identified needs and support long-term program development.

https://www.youtube.com/embed/DgKSiQuN7qA?si=bWL9sS7_sPLH94g5

Download Slides: [***Planning Actions for Continuous Improvement \(PDF\)***](#)

Topics Covered:

- Writing effective action plans
- Linking actions to specific outcomes and findings
- Setting measurable goals and timelines
- Assigning responsibility and tracking progress

See: [**Weigh the Pig, Feed the Pig Article**](#)

? Download: **Annual Status Report Template for Specially Accredited Programs (DOCX)**

Use this template to document assessment activities and outcomes for programs with specialized accreditation, including standards, measures, findings, and action plans.

Short- and Long-Term Assessment Planning

Assessment should be integrated into both annual reporting and strategic planning. This session helps departments balance immediate improvements with long-term goals, ensuring that assessment remains sustainable and meaningful.

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/zEXCvnCmLWA?si=7L7cx4-FYY62Sxcl>

Download Slides: **Short- and Long-Term Planning (PowerPoint)**

Topics Covered:

- Setting priorities for short-term changes
- Aligning assessment with multi-year program goals
- Documenting progress across cycles
- Preparing for accreditation reviews

See: **Example One Year Assessment Plan**

See: **Blank One Year Assessment Plan**

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