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Academic Assessment Newsletters

Office of Institutional Assessment and
Accreditation

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Assessment Document Submission Updates

Georgia Southern University

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Assessment Document Submission Updates

Academic Program and Core Course Student Learning Assessment Assessment documents are due **Friday, October 1st**. You will receive an email on **Wednesday, September 1st** with links to past documents, feedback, and resources along with the form to upload your assessment document.

Please remember that all submissions starting this year will be made publicly available to campus. Care will be taken to protect academic integrity by removing any sensitive materials such as test items before assessment documents are released.

Initial Quality Check

As we are approaching our SACSCOC reaffirmation of accreditation self-study and site visit, IAA will be conducting an initial quality review of all assessment documents submitted starting this year to ensure compliance with SACSCOC standards prior to the peer-review process. ***Documents that do not pass this initial quality check will be returned for revision before they are accepted for peer review.*** Below are critical components of the quality check that you should ensure are correct when submitting your assessment documents:

For **Academic Program Student Learning Outcome Assessment** documents:

- Uses the **current [Academic Program Student Learning Outcome Assessment Template](#)**, downloaded as a Word document
- Must be submitted as a **Word document**, not a pdf
- Program mission statement references **current [University Mission Statement](#)**
- Includes a **unique mission statement and program student learning outcomes appropriate to the degree level** (cannot be the same as another program)
- Includes **data for the correct academic year/years** (2020-2021 for one year cycle; 2019-2020 + 2020-2021 for two year cycle)
- **Data presented for each campus location** where the program is offered (Armstrong, Liberty, Statesboro, Online)

For **General Education (Core Course) Student Learning Outcome Assessment** documents:

- Uses the **current [General Education Student Learning Outcome Assessment Template](#)** (with table of contents feature enabled)
- Includes **data for the correct academic year** (2020-2021)
- **Data presented for each campus location** where the course is offered (Armstrong, Liberty, Statesboro, Online)

Updates to Templates

IAA has made some small updates to the Academic Program Student Learning Outcome Assessment Template and the General Education Student Learning Outcome Assessment Template to better align with Quality Matters terminology and SACSCOC standards and facilitate efficient internal and external peer review. For Academic Program Student Learning Outcome Assessment documents, Student Learning Outcomes are now listed directly following the mission statement section of the template. For both Academic Program Student Learning Outcome Assessment and General Education Student Learning Outcome Assessment documents, The "Teaching Strategies" trait has been renamed "Learning Activities and Engagement." The peer-review criteria for this trait have not changed.

New Assessment Resources

Additional Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Resources



Mission Statement

Clear, concise statement outlining the ultimate principles that guide the work of the program, who it serves, in what ways, and with what results.



Student Learning Outcomes

Specific statements that articulate the discipline-specific content, skills, and/or dispositions students should gain or improve through engagement in the program.



Curriculum Map

Where the students learning outcomes are mapped and addressed in the program's curriculum.



Learning Activities

Description of learning activities aligned with the student learning outcome, including opportunities for student engagement with course content, instructor, and peers.

IAA has recently updated and enhanced the student learning outcome assessment resources available through their website. We encourage you to take advantage of these materials as you prepare your assessment documents for submission.

[Updated Academic Program Student Learning Outcome Assessment Handbook](#)

[Updated General Education Student Learning Outcome Assessment Handbook](#)

[Student Learning Assessment Resources Library Guide](#)

September Assessment Q&A Sessions

Have a question about your assessment process or document? The IAA team is available to discuss your assessment questions and concerns throughout the month of September. Open Academic SLO Assessment Q&A sessions are available on the dates and times listed below. Use the link to add the Zoom details to your calendar.

[Friday, September 3 10:10-11 a.m.](#)

[Thursday, September 9 2-3:15 p.m.](#)

[Monday, September 13 11:15 a.m.-12:05 p.m.](#)

[Tuesday, September 21 12:30-1:45 p.m.](#)

If none of these times fit your schedule, use the Assessment Services Request to submit your questions and a member of our team will follow up.

[Assessment Services Request](#)

The mission of the Office of Institutional Assessment and Accreditation is to support Georgia Southern University's pursuit of academic distinction in teaching, scholarship, and service in a student-centered environment by providing leadership for assessment, institutional effectiveness, planning, and accreditation activities to all academic, student support, and administrative units and programs. Guided by a dedication to a culture of systematic self-reflection, evidence-based decision-making, and improvement, the Office of Institutional Assessment and Accreditation fosters engagement in assessment practices that accurately and comprehensively reflect all academic, administrative, and student support units' primary functions.

[IAA website](#)

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