

HLC Fact of the Week:
“HLC Criteria for Accreditation Related to Assessment”
(June 23, 2017)

Assessment and using assessment findings to make improvements in student learning and overall institutional effectiveness are key issues within HLC’s [Criteria for Accreditation](#). Here is the relevant language pertaining to assessment:

- 4.A. The institution demonstrates responsibility for the quality of its educational programs.
 - 4.A.1. *The institution maintains a practice of regular program review.*
 - 4.A.6. *The institution evaluates the success of its graduates. The institution assures that the degree or certificate programs it represents as preparation for advanced study or employment accomplish these purposes.*
- 4.B. The institution demonstrates a commitment to educational achievement and improvement through ongoing assessment of student learning.
 - 4.B.1. *The institution has clearly stated goals for student learning and effective processes for assessment of student learning and achievement of learning goals.*
 - 4.B.2. *The institution assesses achievement of the learning outcomes that it claims for its curricular and co-curricular programs.*
 - 4.B.3. *The institution uses the information gained from assessment to improve student learning.*
 - 4.B.4. *The institution’s processes and methodologies to assess student learning reflect good practice, including the substantial participation of faculty and other instructional staff members.*
- 4.C. The institution demonstrates a commitment to educational improvement through ongoing attention to retention, persistence, and completion rates in degree and certificate programs.
 - 4.C.1. *The institution has defined goals for student retention, persistence, and completion that are ambitious but attainable and appropriate to its mission, student populations, and educational offerings.*
 - 4.C.2. *The institution collects and analyzes information on student retention, persistence, and completion of its programs.*
 - 4.C.3. *The institution uses information on student retention, persistence, and completion of programs to make improvements as warranted by the data.*
 - 4.C.4. *The institution’s processes and methodologies for collecting and analyzing information on student retention, persistence, and completion of programs reflect good practice.*
- 5.C. The institution engages in systematic and integrated planning.
 - 5.C.2. *The institution links its processes for assessment of student learning, evaluation of operations, planning, and budgeting.*
- 5.D. The institution works systematically to improve its performance.
 - 5.D.1. *The institution develops and documents evidence of performance in its operations.*

- *5.D.2. The institution learns from its operational experience and applies that learning to improve its institutional effectiveness, capabilities, and sustainability, overall and in its component parts.*

To learn more about accreditation and Lindenwood's comprehensive evaluation and site visit scheduled for November 6-7, 2017, and to see the countdown clock to the visit, go to the HLC page on the Lindenwood website here: <http://www.lindenwood.edu/about/higher-learning-commission/>.

Past HLC Facts of the Week are archived [here](#).

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