

DELGADO COMMUNITY COLLEGE PLANNING & ASSESSMENT CYCLE

Step 1: In June and July, Assessment Liaisons meet to review all previous year Unit Assessment Plans and to develop strategies to support those Units that may not have completed the Assessment Cycle. Additionally, Liaisons review documentation of findings and strategies based on included information. Planning units may update data (findings) and/or implementation strategies during this time. In preparation for the next cycle, Assessment Liaisons also discuss overarching goals and develop an assessment plan that addresses opportunities for systemic improvement, and to close-out the 18-month planning cycle. Additionally, several broad planning goals will be identified to include in the next cycle's Unit Assessment Plans.

Step 2: During the Fall Semester:

(Early Fall) Planning and Assessment Council meets to provide oversight and coordination for the current year cycle and to review the Key Performance Indicators that correlate to the College's Strategic Goals and the Mission. Chancellor sends communication to faculty and staff regarding the importance of the assessment process to continuous improvement. Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs sends communication to Planning Unit heads requesting they finalize previous year plans if not done so already and to begin to work with their liaisons to develop current year plans.

(August to December), Assessment Liaisons meet with assigned Planning Units to begin the development of Unit Assessment Plans for the current year. Assessment Liaisons review the Unit Assessment Plan Template and Evaluation Rubric with planning units to ensure consistency in format across the College (See Sample Unit Assessment Plan and Evaluation Rubric). Planning begins with a review of the past assessment cycle, and the collecting documentation of the implementation of results. At this time, Planning Units may update actions, results, and/or initiatives implemented during the overlapping periods of the assessment and planning calendars. Planning for the current year must develop outcomes to measure the effectiveness of strategies implemented as a result of the prior year's assessment and evaluation. In addition to the alignment with the College Strategic Focus and Mission, each Unit Assessment Plan should address one of the broad planning goals developed in June/July. Each planning unit must identify a *minimum* of three (3) measurable Outcomes and related measurable targets; however, units are encouraged to identify as many outcomes as necessary to document service to students and the improvement of the learning process.

Step 3: By the close of the Fall Semester (typically early December for Instructional Units and mid-January for Administrative Units), 100 percent of Unit Assessment Plans will be completed as drafts.

Step 4: Draft plans and Desired Outcomes are reviewed by Planning Units, Immediate Supervisors (i.e., Academic Dean, Department Head, Assistant Vice Chancellor) and Executive Deans/Vice Chancellors. Plans are submitted by Assessment Liaisons to the Director of Research and Planning, who reviews the plans and works with planning units to make necessary modifications to draft plans.

Step 5: During the Spring Semester:

(Early Spring) Assessment Liaisons meet and review all (100 percent) of Unit Assessment Plans to accept, modify with suggestions, or develop corrective plans of action for Planning Units that did not complete the past Assessment Cycle and/or did not develop substantive plans for the current year.

(Early Spring) Chancellor sends communication to faculty and staff as a reminder of the importance of assessment process and cycle to continuous improvement. Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs sends communication to Planning Units requesting them to continue to work with liaisons for current year assessment plans and start assessing and determining findings and use of results.

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(Spring) Planning and Assessment Council meets to provide oversight and coordination for the current year cycle and to review the cycle summary report that annually correlates unit assessments to the College's Strategic Goals, the Mission, and the educational programs' Student Learning Outcomes.

Step 6: In January or early February, approved and modified plans are circulated, through Assessment Liaisons, to Planning Units. Units begin the process, in consultation with Assessment Liaisons, of collecting data to report assessment findings and develop plans to improve opportunities for student learning and success.

Step 7: Beginning in January, Planning Units collect and record data for each identified outcome. Through consultation with Assessment Liaisons, units may identify additional outcomes to review, or may modify/improve existing outcomes. Planning Units begin discussions to review data, and identify strategies for improvement based on results.

Step 8: By the close of the Academic/Fiscal Year (typically mid-May for Instructional Units and late June for Administrative Units), 100 percent of Unit Assessment Plans will: contain detailed data (findings) for each outcome identified; show budget summaries (as applicable); include evidence of data collection (artifacts); include strategies for improvement based on results.

Step 9: Draft plans and supporting evidence are reviewed by Planning Units, Immediate Supervisors (i.e., Academic Dean, Department Head, Assistant Vice Chancellor), and Executive Deans/Vice Chancellors and are submitted by Assessment Liaisons to the Director of Research and Planning, who reviews the plans and supporting evidence and works with planning units to make necessary modifications prior to the College's final acceptance.

Step 10: See Step 1