

Criterion 4. Teaching and Learning: Evaluation and Improvement: The institution demonstrates responsibility for the quality of its educational programs, learning environments, and support services, and it evaluates their effectiveness for student learning through processes designed to promote continuous improvement.

K-State has historically participated in the Kansas Board of Regent's (KBOR) academic program review and other relevant external accreditation processes. The institution currently has a task force in place to develop a more rigorous data-informed annual academic program renewal process to guide program enhancement. All accredited programs at K-State are approved and compliant with full accreditation, certification, or licensure.

To enable credit for prior learning ranging for all incoming students, the KBOR's transfer and articulation policy provides seamless approval of prior credits across the public postsecondary education system in Kansas. Policy is followed for military and AP credit. K-State maintains and exercises authority of the quality of any dual credit. The Curriculog Curriculum Management System is used for adding new or modifying courses, which includes maintaining control of prerequisite expectations. Senior survey reports provide data on student educational experiences and alumni survey reports provide feedback about post-graduation success.

Assessments of student learning are monitored within programs, but reported institutionally. All undergraduate and graduate programs assess student learning outcomes through clearly defined assessment plans. The office of assessment guides and sustains the process for the assessment of student learning and for achievement of learning goals in academic and cocurricular offerings. The student success and student life units provide annual assessment reports to the office of assessment. All assessment reporting groups receive feedback from their program/unit/college assessment committees as well as the office of assessment to guide enhancement in assessment processes. The processes include the use of visualization technology, which provides opportunities for in-depth analysis of student learning data.

Improving student success is a key focus of the university's strategic plan. K-State has set goals for improving student retention, persistence, and degree completion. A focus on reducing equity gaps has led to more intentional collaboration across the university. In addition to tracking its own progress, K-State also compares its progress to peer institutions and analyzes the data at a granular level. Colleges, the Office of Student Success, and Student Life, use reports to monitor retention, persistence, and completion rates to determine the impact of the programs they implement and to design new programs. Some of the retention and graduation strategies have been general while others have focused on specific populations. There have been substantial increases in 1-year retention rate, 4-year retention rate, and the 6-year retention rate over the past decade.