



Assessment ILO Pilot Call for Applications

The University Assessment Council invites applications from academic and student affairs programs to participate in a pilot for assessing UNC's [Institutional Learning Outcomes](#) (ILOs). The goals of the pilot are as follows:

1. Promote alignment between ILOs and program-level learning outcomes.
2. Pilot tools for collecting program-level student learning outcomes.
 - a. Academic programs will use Canvas as a data collection tool.
 - b. Student Affairs and student success programs will pilot tools appropriate to their assessment activities.
3. Assist the Assessment Council in refining and scaling the use of Canvas and other tools to support assessment of program- and institutional-level student learning outcomes.

Purpose

UNC's Strategic Enrollment and Student Success (SESS) Plan provides a roadmap for improving student retention and completion outcomes, which are important measures of student success. The Assessment Council supports the SESS Plan and seeks to extend the definition of student success to include student learning outcomes as an equally important measure of student success. With the adoption of UNC's ILOs in 2017, UNC is ready to move to the next phase of (a) supporting campus-wide adoption of the ILOs as appropriate to unit missions and student learning outcomes and (b) developing a manageable and sustainable process for systematically collecting and using information about what and how well students are achieving UNC's ILOs.

Benefits of Participation

Collecting and managing assessment data is one of the main challenges programs encounter when assessing student learning outcomes. Participants in this pilot will receive support in developing and implementing a manageable and sustainable program assessment process that may significantly reduce the time spent on collecting and maintaining assessment data. Participants will also be recognized for their contributions to program and institutional assessment of learning at the annual Teaching and Assessment Symposium. Finally, programs chosen for the pilot will receive a \$1,500 assessment grant, which can be used to fund any expense allowable under UNC fiscal policy. Up to six grants will be awarded.

Pilot Project Description

Beginning fall 2020, programs selected for the pilot will work with the Assessment Council and the Division of Academic Effectiveness to complete the following activities:

1. Attend an orientation session.
2. Meet regularly with assigned project consultant.
3. Develop an assessment plan for the project.
4. Set up data collection tool for assessing program outcomes.
5. Assess program learning outcomes.

6. Assist in evaluating Canvas or alternate tools for assessing PLOs and ILOs.
7. Provide feedback and project updates as requested, including a final report.

Technical Support

Participants will receive ongoing technical support from the Division of Academic Effectiveness and members of the University Assessment Council throughout the project. Dr. Aaron Haberman, Professor of History and Senior Faculty Assessment Fellow, will serve as the project consultant to academic degree programs.

Eligibility Requirements

- Any UNC department or program that has student learning as part of the program mission
- Department or program committed to program-level assessment of learning
- At least two department or program members serving as project leaders (at least one member must be a full-time UNC employee; second member may be a student)

Allowable Costs

The grant may be used to fund any expense allowable under UNC fiscal policy. Please note that costs associated with official functions, travel, and employee compensation (including student compensation) must meet current UNC policies for these expenses.

The award of funds is a contract between grant recipients and the university. Grants will be disbursed as follows:

1. For projects to be completed in spring 2021, recipients will receive the full \$1,500, and all funds must be expended by the end of fiscal year 2021 (June 30, 2021).
2. For projects to be completed in fall 2021, recipients will receive \$750 in fiscal year 2021 and \$750 in fiscal year 2022. All funds must be expended by the end of the fiscal year in which they are awarded.

Application Process and Deadlines

Applicants should provide a 2-3-page application letter that includes the following information:

- Name of department or program
- Names of at least two people from the department or program who will lead the pilot
- Statement of interest for participating in the pilot
- Description of program's student learning outcomes and current program assessment plan
- Signature page that includes the following signatures (electronic signatures allowed):
 - Each team member and title
 - Chair/director (if not a member of the project team)
 - Dean or AVP

Deadline

Applications should be submitted by October 9, 2020. Applications submitted after that date will be considered until all funds have been awarded.

Applications should be emailed to kim.black@unco.edu. Contact Kim Black at kim.black@unco.edu for additional information.