



Policy Title **Policy on Assessment of Academic Programs, AES Units, and Institutional Effectiveness**

Policy Number	1030
Category	Board & Organizational Governance
Applicability	College-wide
Responsible Office	Office of Planning & Institutional Effectiveness; Office of Academic Affairs
Effective Date	February 20, 2025

I. Policy Statement

Suffolk County Community College seeks to maintain its commitment to institutional excellence by conducting regular assessments of its academic programs and administrative and educational services (AES) units. Assessment plans should connect to Suffolk’s mission, the institutional goals and strategic objectives outlined in the college’s Strategic Plan, and the activities/initiatives within the college’s Operational Plan.

II. Rationale

The purpose of this Policy is to establish an expectation of and framework for regular, comprehensive assessment of the effectiveness of the institution in achieving its stated mission, goals, and desired outcomes, consistent with expectations and standards established by the New York State Education Department, the State University of New York (SUNY), and the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE).

Consistent with the values and institutional goals outlined in the college’s Strategic Plan, engaging in regular assessment provides an opportunity for transparent college-wide communication, collaboration, action, innovation, and continuous improvement on curricula offered and services provided to members of the college community.

III. Scope and Applicability

This Policy applies college-wide to all academic programs and administrative and educational services units of the college.

IV. Responsible Office/Executive

The Office of Planning & Institutional Effectiveness and the Office of Academic Affairs have responsibility for the implementation and review of this Policy. Individuals with questions about this Policy should contact the Office of Planning & Institutional Effectiveness and the Office of Academic Affairs for more information.

V. Definitions

Assessment: the process used by the College to continually assess the degree to which the student learning and support outcomes of each academic program and administrative and educational services (AES) unit are being achieved. The overarching purpose of assessment is to determine how effectively outcomes and goals are being achieved for the purpose of developing action plans to improve the results.

Academic Programs: a set of courses that lead to a degree or certificate designed with its own program learning outcomes. These outcomes provide the framework for the achievement of measurable student learning outcomes.

Institutional Educational Goals (IEGs): these goals provide the knowledge, skills, abilities and dispositions that students completing an academic program are able to demonstrate at the time of graduation.

Administrative and Educational Services (AES) Unit: a unit of the college which is primarily responsible for: administrative functions which support the environment for student learning (e.g., financial aid); providing direct educational support either to academic programs or students (e.g., library); or providing nontraditional educational opportunities to external constituents (e.g., continuing education).

Institutional Effectiveness: the ability of an institution to achieve its stated mission and goals.

VI. Related Administrative Procedures

- Procedure for Assessment of Institutional Effectiveness and Academic Programs

VII. Cross-References

- [2022–2027 Strategic Plan](#)
- [Comprehensive Assessment Plan for Institutional Effectiveness \(CAPIE\)](#)

VIII. References

- Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) [Standards I–VII](#)
- 8 NYCRR § 52.1(b)(3)
- SUNY Trustees [Resolution 2010-039](#)
- SUNY [Assessment Policy](#)
- SUNY [Assessment Guidance](#)

IX. History / Revision Dates

Adoption Date: February 20, 2025 (Board of Trustees)