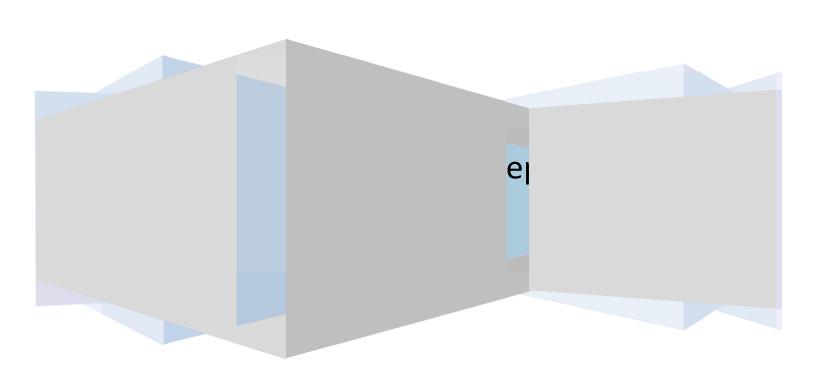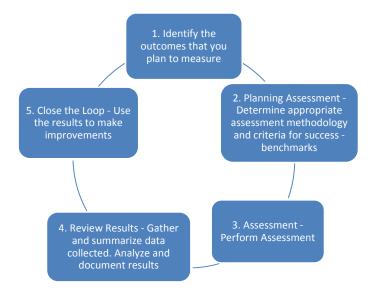# Student Learning Outcomes

1. Purpose

Bluegrass Community and Technical College (BCTC) strives to maintain high educational standards through a continuous improvement model. This model responds to accountability measures at local, state and federal levels along with meeting accreditation standards. Through a five step cycle each technical program assesses program level student learning outcomes, using the results to improve the success of our students. Student learning outcomes are identified as expectations of what a student should learn or be able to do by the end of the program. Technical programs are defined as programs offering a diploma or an associate degree credential in a technical field.

1. Identify the outcomes that you plan to measure

2. Planning Assessment - Determine appropriate assessment methodology and criteria for success - benchmarks

3. Assessment - Perform Assessment

4. Review Results - Gather and summarize data collected. Analyze and document results

5. Close the Loop - Use the results to make improvements

2. Process

Each year meetings are scheduled with technical program coordinators during the beginning of fall semester and at the end of spring semester. In the spring, program coordinators are asked to complete their assessment plan, using their findings to identify outcomes for the next academic year. In fall the program coordinators refine the current academic year assessments.

Previously the outcomes were identified and maintained in a spreadsheet format. During the summer, all of the student learning outcomes were moved to the new Assessment Improvement Measurement relational database (AIM).

In August, 2012 emails and follow-up communications were sent to 37 of the 39 technical programs identified at BCTC. Due to their current status, Health Information Technology and Homeland Security and Emergency Management were excluded from the fall meeting schedule.

TECHNICAL PROGRAMS

Allied Health	Manufacturing Industrial Technology
Dental Assisting	Electrical Technology
	Engineering and Electronics Technology
Dental Hygiene	
Dental Laboratory Technology	Industrial Maintenance
Medical Assisting	**Natural Sciences**
	Biotechnology Laboratory Technician
Nuclear Medicine	
Radiography	Environmental Science Technology
Respiratory	**Nursing**
Surgical Technology	Practical Nursing
Business and Education	Registered Nursing
Business Management & Marketing	**Trades and Technology**
Education	Air Conditioning
Health Information Technology	Architecture
Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Ed	Automotive
Medical Information Technology	Collision Repair
Office Systems Technology	Construction
	Civil Engineering
Communications, History, Languages, & Social Sciences/Humanities	CADD
Criminal Justice	Cosmetology
Homeland Security & ER Management	
	Fire Science
Human Services	Machine Tool - D
Computer and Information Systems	Machine Tool - L
Computer & Information Technologies	
	Welding
Information Management & Design	**Workforce**
	Equine Studies

3. Meetings

Meetings were scheduled during the month of August, 2012. As of August 31, 2012, meetings were held with 35 out of the 37 programs contacted (95.6%). A meeting is still being attempted with the coordinator for CADD and Civil Engineering.

The agenda for each meeting included:

1. 2011-2012 Student Learning Outcomes - Review of the previous year's outcomes to ensure that the assessments were recorded with the findings used for improvement, or new outcomes identified.

2. 2012-2013 Student Learning Outcomes – Either the 2011-2012 outcomes were rolled over or new outcomes identified and recorded in the AIM system. The month of assessment for each assessment was also noted and recorded in AIM.

3. Timeline – Review of a draft timeline that includes program health review, annual plans, and student learning outcomes dates.

4. Program coordinators were informed of the suggested change in time frame for their portion of the annual Program Health Review.

5. AIM System – A review of the AIM system along with the procedure for generating report and their potential use. An example report for advisory committee meetings were generated as an example.

6. Productivity – General information was provided describing preliminary work currently being done using their program specific course prefixes. This information is assisting in identifying duplicated/unduplicated enrollment, Full-time Equivalent Faculty, and credit hours generated for each technical program.

7. "Cheat Sheet" – A one-page "quick guide" that includes instructions on how to utilize the AIM System to record data, roll over outcomes, identify month of assessment, and develop reports.

8. A handout was provided (Addendum 1, separate attachment) containing information relevant to the meeting.

4. Results

In 2011-2012, at least three, and sometimes four student learning outcomes were identified by each technical program with a total of 117 student learning outcomes assessed. Results and use of the findings are recorded in AIM for 108 out of the 117 for a completion rate of 92.3%.
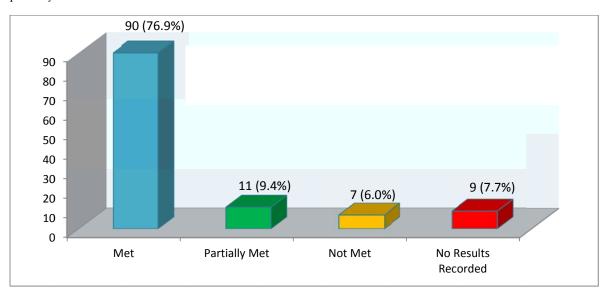
Environmental Science Technology – Two outcomes pending. Instructor to re-submit findings and how they will be used in 2012-2013

CADD and Civil Engineering – Six outcomes missing results and how findings will be used. A meeting with the program coordinator is pending.

Business Management and Marketing – One outcome missing results and follow-up.

Of the assessment plans in 2011-2012 with results recorded, 90 achievement targets were met, 11 were partially met, and 7 were not met.

5. Conclusion

The technical program coordinators strive to improve their programs through student learning outcome assessments. Increased understanding of the process and importance of student learning outcomes is apparent in the percent of assessment plans completed and the quality of the assessment initiatives generated.

6. Addendum

Assessment in AIM – separate attachment