



Assessment Champion for Student Success in Learning Award

Introduction and Rationale

University Assessment and Testing (UAT) and the Assessment and Academic Improvement Council (AAIC) would like to recognize innovation and creativity in assessment planning and implementation for continuous improvement to support student success as well as promote and cultivate a collaborative culture of assessment. The *Assessment Champion for Student Success in Learning Award* aligns with and supports the OSU Strategic Plan. Winners of this award provide leadership in OSU's assessment movement on establishing a culture of assessment in student learning.

Objectives

1. To promote collaboration and teamwork among academic programs to uphold the OSU mission and support the strategic plan and its imperatives.
2. To demonstrate achievements of accomplished initiatives through specific examples or to provide updates for initiatives still in progress that will establish a robust culture of assessment by integrating teaching, learning, and assessment.

Award Details

The award will be presented each December at the University Awards Convocation to recognize the team member(s) in charge of assessment for the selected program. There will be one to two awards given. In the event a worthy program cannot be identified in a given year, no award will be presented. Winning programs will receive a plaque with the names of all relevant team member(s) who have been integral to the success of assessment within the program, as well as a \$1,000 prize to be split among the team member(s) or program/department.

Nomination and Selection Process

- Nominations should only reflect assessment work that was conducted or completed during the prior academic year.
- Anyone can nominate a program, either their own or another program that they feel encapsulates the spirit of the award. Nominations letters should include the below "Expectations and Criteria."
- Nomination letters should be sent via email to assessment@okstate.edu by the due date established on the UAT website.
- University Assessment and Testing will appoint a selection committee to aid in reviewing applications and identify up to two winners for the academic year. Those chosen to serve on the

selection committee could include assessment coordinators, administrators, faculty, staff, and college assessment representatives who have knowledge and experience in assessment and who have not nominated anyone for the current award year.

- Each nomination letter will be reviewed by UAT and the Selection Committee against a five-point rubric that aligns with the five criteria listed below. The high scoring nominations will then be examined and discussed by the selection committee along with Assessment staff from UAT and up to two winners will be chosen.
- The Assessment Champion for Student Success in Learning Award is nomination-based. If no nominations are received, an award may not be given that year.

Expectations and Criteria

The below criteria will be utilized to score nomination letters on their alignment to the intention of the award. This award will identify champions of assessment who have:

1. connected their assessment procedures to student success in learning,
2. established a culture of assessment across the program (this could include, but is not limited to collaboration, communication, buy-in, and planning of the assessment process amongst faculty, administrators, and other program personnel),
3. implemented appropriate curriculum, program, or assessment plan changes and realignment following assessment,
4. addressed challenges related to program outcomes assessment with creative and effective solutions, and
5. focused on the core values of teaching, learning, and assessment to support student success at OSU.

Include the following information in the nomination letter:

- Name of the person(s) writing the nomination letter,
- Name of the program(s) being nominated,
- Name of the program assessment coordinator being nominated (can also include others who aid in facilitating assessment), and
- The college the program is under.

Below is a list of prompting questions that can aid in constructing the nomination letter. Please do not submit your letter in a Question/Answer format; the question list below is meant to be used as a tool for brainstorming and a resource for helping to develop ideas to include in your nomination letter. *Any evidence for nomination should only reflect assessment work conducted or completed during the prior academic year.

- How has assessment been connected to improving student success?
- How have faculty, administrators, and other program personnel worked in collaboration with one another to implement action plans based on assessment findings?
- How have curriculum, program, or assessment plan changes been considered and implemented based on the assessment findings?
- How has the program addressed challenges related to assessing and implementing change within the program?
- How have concerns been identified and what was the process for devising solutions through action plans?

- What creative or out-of-the-box ideas has the program implemented, either in the assessment plan or creating solutions?
- How has the program aligned with OSU's core values of teaching, learning, and assessment?
- If the program has been awarded program assessment funding, how has program personnel used the funding to promote student learning and support using assessment as a tool?
- What other information would you like to provide to the award selection committee as to why this nomination should be awarded?