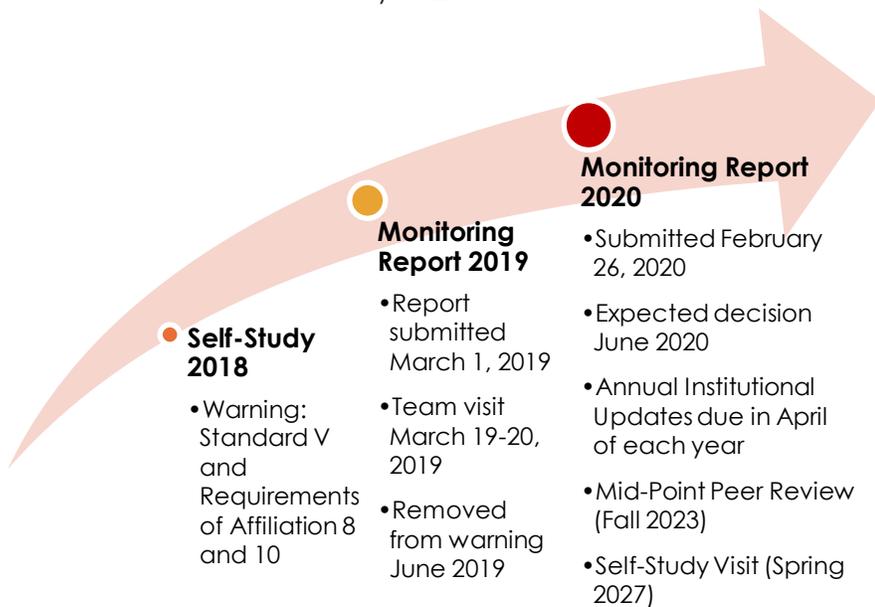


Accreditation Update: Spring 2020

Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

York College is accredited by [the Middle States Commission on Higher Education \(MSCHE\)](#). It is a voluntary non-governmental organization "dedicated to quality assurance and improvement through accreditation via peer evaluation."¹ MSCHE mandates institutions such as York meet standards and requirements related to best practices in higher education. The following is a timeline of activities since our self-study in 2018:



The MSCHE warning pertained to one MSCHE standard and two requirements of affiliation - all assessment related. [Standard V](#) refers to assessment of education effectiveness. [Requirement of Affiliation 8](#) mandates the systematic evaluation of programs and educational goals, and the publication of those findings to show how well the College is achieving its outcomes. For [Requirement of Affiliation 10](#), integrated institutional planning must include goals for academic and institutional effectiveness and improvement, student achievement of educational goals, student learning, and the results of those assessments. This update summarizes the information contained in the report. The report, written by the Institutional Effectiveness Committee (IEC), appears on the [web](#).

Due to Covid-19, please note the following dates for annual reporting:

May 15

Encourage the submission of 2019-2020 Annual Reports
2020-2021 Assessment Plans

October 1

Deadline for submission of 2019-2020 Annual Reports
2020-2021 Assessment Plans

Visit the Intranet

Throughout the semester, the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning (OIESP) will be posting research briefs to the [intranet](#) (institutional login required). The OIESP created research briefs as a means to communicate research and assessment activities to the York community. Topics include but are not limited to trends in enrollment, student and faculty demographics, one-year retention, and assessment results related to academic advising, inclusiveness, and civic engagement.

¹ Source: Middle States Commission on Higher Education

Highlights of York's Second Monitoring Report

Introduction

- Changes in senior leadership at CUNY and York
- Appointment of AVP for the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning
- New strategic plan, including Key Performance Indicators to monitor progress
- Revised institutional effectiveness accountability structure to include IEC and Cabinet oversight of annual operational planning

Chapter 1: The Assessment Framework

Describes the College's institutional effectiveness framework (i.e., student learning and organizational capacity, including the various components of each) and infrastructure that sustains assessment and actions for the long-term, including the committee accountability structure created to oversee assessment (and now planning).

- The Institutional Effectiveness Committee oversees the three assessment committees, as well as monitoring progress on the goals and outcomes identified in the strategic and operational plans
- The Institutional Effectiveness Process includes annual academic/unit assessment, five-year program/unit review, and the annual operational/CUNY Performance Management Process

Chapter 2: Demonstrating Sustainability – Allocating Resources

Discusses the allocation of resources to sustain the assessment infrastructure.

- Restructured the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning (OIESP) to better integrate assessment and institutional research
- Increased data transparency
 - ✓ [Intranet](#) available on the OIESP webpage
 - ✓ Research Briefs and survey results appear on the intranet
 - ✓ Created an Institutional Survey Schedule and Annual Institutional Reporting Schedule, both of which appear on the [web](#)
- Data Trends by Department and Program (to be produced and distributed annually in spring)
- Purchased *Qualtrics* for college-wide use
- Professional development workshops continue
- Creation and implementation of the York Assessment Management System
- Expanded the retention section of the *College Factbook* to include comparisons of student success outcomes on key demographics
- Evidence of the maturing culture of assessment (examples):
 - ✓ Curriculum change proposal now includes two assessment-related questions
 - ✓ Prof 101 includes discussions on assessment
 - ✓ Two-thirds of academic departments have formed assessment committees and the majority discuss assessment at monthly department meetings

Chapter 3: Develop an Internal System for Documenting, Results, Plans and Strategies – The York Assessment Management System

Summarizes the creation and implementation of the newly created York Assessment Management System (YAMS) to document assessment plans, reports, and strategies.

- Internally developed, created, and managed
- Multi-phase system of implementation
 - ✓ Phase I: Annual Assessment Plans
 - ✓ Phase II: Mid-year Check-in Process (New! Takes 3 minutes)
 - ✓ Phase III: Annual Year-end Report
 - ✓ Phase IV: Institution-level reporting capabilities
 - ✓ Phase V: Incorporating rubrics
- A team effort that included the OIESP, Information Technology, all three assessment committees, the IEC, and programs/units participating in pilots and providing feedback after each phase
- Benefits to YAMS:
 - ✓ Facilitates and institutionalizes planning and reporting
 - ✓ Serves as a document repository
 - ✓ Allows for continuity of access within departments
 - ✓ Robust institution-level reporting
 - ✓ Facilitates alignment with strategic goals, institutional learning outcomes, annual operational plan/PMP, and Middle States Standard 5 (for academic programs)

Next Steps

- MSCHE Annual Institutional Update due April – May (evidence of the College's ongoing assessment must be submitted annually)
- MSCHE action on York's second monitoring report due in June
- To maintain accreditation, the College will sustain assessment efforts, evaluating and modifying activities and processes as needed to align with the College's evolving culture of assessment
- The IEC will produce an Annual Institutional Effectiveness Report that summarizes 2019-2020 assessment efforts that will be shared with the Cabinet. The Cabinet will identify priorities for 2020-2021 for the annual operational plan/PMP and these priorities will be shared with the assessment committees for execution at the program/unit level.*

* We will continue to ensure our planning and assessment management structure align with shared governance, making adjustments as necessary.

Assessment Committees

A special thank you to the members of the College's assessment committees. The faculty and staff who work on these committees ensure that York's culture of assessment is supported and strengthened. Their efforts are impressive and greatly appreciated. Please click on each link to see committee membership:

[Academic Assessment Committee](#), Dr. Linda Barley, Chair

[General Education Assessment Committee](#), Dr. Timothy Paglione, Chair

[Administrative, Educational, and Student Support Assessment Committee](#), Ms. Nazia Naeem and Ms. Vica Mars, Co-Chairs