

Developing Program Learning Outcomes/Rubric (Academic Departments)

Program Learning Outcomes are statements describing significant and essential learning that students will achieve at the completion of a program. They are clear statements that articulate the knowledge and skills that students must demonstrate or produce at the completion of the program. These outcomes form the basis for program assessment.

Constructing Program Learning Outcomes:

- **What do you want students to know or be able to do at the end of your program?**
The answer constitutes the learning outcomes for the program.
- **Tips: use strong action verbs to construct program learning outcomes**
(examples of strong verbs include: create, analyze, apply, compare, evaluate, identify, represent, interpret, formulate, calculate, design, distinguish)

CHECKLIST:

- **Do program outcomes reflect the Mission Statement of the Program?**
- **Do program outcomes reflect BCC’s Gen Ed and/or Pathways proficiencies?¹**
- **Are outcomes well written and concise?**
- **Is each program outcome written with a strong action verb?**
- **Are the outcomes SMART? Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Timely**

Rubric for Assessing Program Outcomes

Exemplary	Acceptable	Developing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcomes are SMART - specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, timely. • Outcomes are aligned with program and institutional goals • Outcomes clearly address the breadth of knowledge, skills, or services associated with program • Outcomes are well-written and concise • Outcomes contain action verb emphasizing student activity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcomes seek to be SMART - specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, timely. • Outcomes are aligned with program and institutional goals. • Outcomes address the breadth of knowledge, skills, or services associated with program • Outcomes are appropriate, but language may be vague or need revision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcomes do not appear SMART • Outcomes not aligned with program or institutional goals. • Incomplete—does not address the breadth of knowledge, skills, or services associated with the program • Language of outcomes needs attention

¹ As part of this effort (in FA15-SP16) the College will link the Gen Edu and Pathways proficiencies; map Pathways course outcomes with Pathways proficiencies; and assess/reconsider the appropriateness of the BCC General Education Proficiencies.