Multi-State Collaborative (MSC) to Advance Learning Outcomes Assessment
Demonstration Year

Assignment Parameters

ASSIGNMENTS:
Faculty members who are willing to participate in the Demonstration Year will be asked to submit student work products (a.k.a. “artifacts”) to be assessed using the appropriate VALUE rubric. Recognizing that not all assignments will be well-suited for assessment against all criteria of the appropriate VALUE rubric, faculty will be asked to indicate which criteria of the appropriate VALUE rubric their assignment was designed to address. Faculty members will be encouraged to submit assignments that address as many of the VALUE rubric dimensions for a specific student learning outcome as appropriate to allow for a more comprehensive measure of student proficiency levels for each learning outcome.

ASSIGNMENT PARAMETERS:

- **Artifact Modality:** Submit written student work only. Exclude multiple choice exams and other alternative modalities.

- **Minimum Artifact Length:** Artifacts submitted for assessing written communication and critical thinking should be a MINIMUM OF 3 PAGES long. There is NO minimum page length for student work being submitted for assessing civic engagement or quantitative literacy.

- **Maximum Artifact Length:** Student work submitted for assessing civic engagement, critical thinking, quantitative literacy, or written communication should NOT EXCEED 25 PAGES. Typical artifact length would be 3-10 pages.

- **Multiple Revisions:** Student work that has gone through one or more revisions before the student submits the final paper is ACCEPTABLE.

- **Artifact Creator:** Student work (the “artifact”) must have been completed independently. Student work completed as part of a team/group is NOT ACCEPTABLE. In order to judge the representativeness of the sample, to undertake subgroup analysis, and to undertake other types of data analysis, it is necessary that each student artifact be paired with only one student. As the model and process matures, we will be able to accept work created by a group of students.

- **Confidentiality/Anonymity:** Exclude student work that breaches the confidentiality or anonymity of the student, faculty member, or institution providing the work. The decision to exclude artifacts will be rendered at the institution level. For example, students may have referenced their course instructor in their work, which would breach confidentiality. Institutions must decide upon the appropriate protocol for ensuring that submitted student work, after it has been de-identified, cannot be traced back to the student, instructor, or course.
• **Exam Format:** Multiple choice exams are not suited for assessment with the VALUE rubrics even if there are calculations embedded in the questions.

• **Peter Ewell**, in Occasional Paper #16, *The Lumina Degree Qualifications Profile: Implications for Assessment*, National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment, January 2013, pp. 13-17, states that “assignments that detail what task the student should undertake, how the task should be undertaken, how the results should be reported out, and how extensive should the documented evidence be will provide student the guidance and prompts necessary to construct an appropriate answer.”