PA 2: Sustainability Planning

4 points available

A. Credit Rationale
This credit recognizes institutions that have developed comprehensive plans to move toward sustainability. Sustainability planning affords an institution the opportunity to clarify its vision of a sustainable future and provides a road map to help guide decision-making. Establishing measurable goals and objectives allows an institution to track its future progress, identify and document its successes, and manage the levels of resources devoted to (and required for) the attainment of its sustainability goals. Including sustainability at a high level in the institution’s strategic plan and other guiding documents also signals an institution’s commitment to sustainability and may help infuse an ethic of environmental, fiscal and social responsibility throughout the campus community.

B. Criteria
Institution has current and formal plans to advance sustainability. The plan(s) cover one or more of the following areas:

- Curriculum
- Research (or other scholarship appropriate for the institution)
- Campus Engagement
- Public Engagement
- Air & Climate
- Buildings
- Dining Services/Food
- Energy
- Grounds
- Purchasing
- Transportation
- Waste
- Water
- Diversity & Affordability
- Health, Wellbeing & Work
- Investment
- Other

The plan(s) may include measurable objectives with corresponding strategies and timeframes to achieve the objectives.

The criteria may be met by any combination of formally adopted plans, for example:

- Strategic plan or equivalent guiding document
- Campus master plan or physical campus plan
- Sustainability plan
- Climate action plan
- Human resources strategic plan
- Diversity plan

For institutions that are a part of a larger system, plans developed at the system level are eligible for this credit.
C. Applicability
This credit applies to all institutions.

D. Scoring
Institutions earn ⅙ point for each of the areas listed for which they have formally adopted plans and an additional ⅙ point if the plans include at least one measurable objective with corresponding strategies and timeframes. A maximum of 4 points is available for this credit.

**Scoring Example: Sustainability Planning**

Example University has several formally adopted plans that address sustainability: a strategic plan, a physical campus plan, a climate action plan and a diversity plan. Collectively, the plans cover 10 specific sustainability areas:

- Curriculum
- Research
- Air & Climate
- Buildings
- Energy
- Grounds
- Transportation
- Waste
- Water
- Diversity & Affordability

The plans include at least one measurable objective with corresponding strategies and timeframes for 5 of those areas.

Points earned = \((0.167 \times 10 \text{ subject areas}) + (0.167 \times 5 \text{ measurable objectives})\)

\[ = 1.67 + 0.835 \]

\[ = 2.5 \text{ points} \]
E. Reporting Fields

Required
- An indication of whether the institution has formally adopted plans to advance sustainability covering the following areas:
  - Curriculum
  - Research (or other scholarship appropriate for the institution)
  - Campus Engagement
  - Public Engagement
  - Air & Climate
  - Buildings
  - Dining Services/Food
  - Energy
  - Grounds
  - Purchasing
  - Transportation
  - Waste
  - Water
  - Diversity & Affordability
  - Health, Wellbeing & Work
  - Investment
  - Other (please specify)
- An affirmation that the submitted information is accurate to the best of a responsible party’s knowledge and contact information for the responsible party. The responsible party should be a staff member, faculty member, or administrator who can respond to questions regarding the data once submitted and available to the public.

Conditional
Required for each area for which the institution is reporting formally adopted plans:
- A brief description of the plan(s)
- An indication of whether the plan(s) include at least one measurable objective with corresponding strategies and timeframes

Required for each area for which the institution is reporting formally adopted plans with measurable objectives, strategies and timeframes:
- A brief description of the measurable objectives, strategies and timeframes
- Accountable parties, offices or departments

Optional
- The institution’s definition of sustainability (e.g. as included in a formally adopted plan)
- An indication of whether the institution’s strategic plan or equivalent guiding document includes sustainability at a high level
- A brief description of how the institution’s strategic plan or equivalent guiding document addresses sustainability
- The website URL where information about the institution’s sustainability planning is available
- Notes about the submission
F. Measurement

Timeframe
Report on the institution’s current and formally adopted plan(s). Draft documents are not eligible for this credit.

Sampling and Data Standards
Not applicable