

Principal Preparation Program Self-Study Toolkit

(For use in developing, assessing, and improving principal preparation programs)

- Candidate Admissions
- Course Content
- Pedagogy-Andragogy
- Clinical Practice
- Performance Assessment
- Graduate Performance Outcomes

The Wallace Foundation generously supports this work.

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Introduction

The 10th edition of Quality Measures™ represents a milestone in more than a decade of EDC work with school districts and principal preparation programs across the country, working to prepare principals to lead chronically low performing schools, with an end goal of improving student achievement. Substantial changes in QM content, format, and methods are reflected in this edition and are in direct response to feedback from users as well as insights gleaned from our own observations of user implementation over the course of the past two years with a diverse pool of programs and school districts.

It is with sincere appreciation that we extend our thanks to The Wallace Foundation, whose generous funding supported the production of this 10th edition of QM as part of the launch of the University Principal Preparation Initiative (UPPI) in the fall of 2016. UPPI programs from Albany State University, Virginia State University, Florida Atlantic University, San Diego State University, University of Connecticut, Western Kentucky University, and North Carolina State University – engaged their self-study teams in the collection of baseline program data using Quality Measures™ tools and protocols in partnership with affiliated school district staff.

We would also like to acknowledge survey feedback received from school district identified preparation programs that conducted self-studies in partnership with their affiliated school districts as an initial step in their partner collaboration efforts.

Members of the National Training Provider-Principal Graduate Professional Learning Community (TPPG PLC) were another important contributing source to this edition of the Quality Measures™ toolkit. Contributions included, but were not limited to, careful review and feedback on Professional Standards for Educational Leaders (PSEL, 2015) as part of a 2016 PLC session in Massachusetts.

Additional contributors included members of the first training cohort of QM Facilitators who co-facilitated self-studies with non-Wallace funded principal preparation programs as part of their training, and provided feedback and suggestions for improving tools and processes.

Finally, it is with heartfelt gratitude that I acknowledge Melissa Lin. Her countless hours of tool editing and formatting, self-study meeting coordination and scheduling, information and materials management, and exemplar catalogue design and population have supported the evolution of Quality Measures™ since 2009. Her talented support has been a consistent source of both inspiration and aspiration to QM users, trainers, facilitators, and developers.

Cheryl L. King, QM Principal Investigator
Education Development Center, Inc.

Overview

Education Development Center, Inc., funded by The Wallace Foundation, is pleased to introduce the 10th edition of Quality Measures™ evidence-based tools and protocols. The QM toolkit is intentionally designed to be a *self-led, analytic, and topic-specific resource* for use in the critical self-examination, reflection, and peer review of principal preparation program effectiveness.

Highlights and New Resources

The 10th edition of the QM toolkit reflects several important changes that respond to new research findings, performance standards for education leaders, and feedback from QM program and school district partners. Among the more noticeable changes is a return (by popular demand) to a rubric format and developmental level continuum. Also incorporated, as part of the 10th edition, is more detailed guidance on assembling supporting evidence that includes: types of evidence, descriptions for each type, and illustrative examples by domain and level of evidence strength. In addition to these changes, this edition of the tool includes: selected references that are organized by domain, the QM theory of change, and an “at a glance” look at QM domains and indicators.

Research Base and Performance Standards

QM tools are grounded in the seminal research of Linda Darling-Hammond on exemplary principal preparation practices. QM rubric indicators and criteria describe the characteristics associated with effective practices from the literature and empirical research on adult transformational pedagogy. In addition, indicators and criteria are tightly linked to **Professional Standards for Educational Leaders (PSEL)**.

Rubric Organization and Rating Continuum

This Quality Measures™ toolkit includes a rubric for each of the following program domains: 1) *candidate admissions*, 2) *course content*, 3) *pedagogy-andragogy*, 4) *clinical practice*, 5) *performance assessment*, and 6) *graduate performance outcomes*. Each domain identifies specific indicators of effective practice and criteria. Rubrics provide a detailed description of indicators and performance criteria for each program domain. A four-level performance continuum allows teams to examine their program practices against indicator criteria at each level of the continuum to determine the degree to which their program meets the stated criteria for a particular level.

Evidence-Based Protocol

QM uses an interactive facilitated process to complete the program self-study. Self-study teams are typically comprised of program faculty, affiliated school district representatives, and other program stakeholders. Beginning with a facilitated orientation session, the self-study typically consists of four parts: 1) a general information session that introduces Quality Measures™ to an audience of potential users; 2) an

orientation session for teams, interested in completing a program self-study, to build a shared understanding of QM domains as well as indicators of effectiveness and criteria, and to brainstorm examples of evidence of effective practices; 3) the presentation of evidence and self-scoring session that is typically held when teams have completed preliminary self-ratings for each program domain and assembled supporting evidence, and following the presentation of evidence for each domain, the team makes final determinations about rating levels; and 4) a presentation of findings and recommendations for team consideration on where to focus intervention efforts.

The four parts of an effective self-study process are typically scheduled as follows:

- The **general information session** is typically a one-hour session designed for programs, districts, and policy makers interested in learning more about the QM self-study process as a way to support continuous improvement activities. This session is often conducted virtually in order to accommodate larger audiences of potential users who may be located in different locations.
- The **orientation session** is usually a 2- to 3-hour meeting that is intended for programs, districts, and policy makers who have decided to participate in the QM self-study process, and have assembled a self-study team to lead the process. The session is designed to familiarize teams with QM tools and protocols, indicators and rating criteria, and the process for assembling evidence and completing preliminary ratings. Teams also use this time to finalize plans for the evidence review and final rating session.
- The **evidence review and rating session** is often divided into more than one sitting in order to allow adequate time for teams to review evidence and rate each domain (suggest a minimum of 1-2 hours for each domain). For example, teams may choose to review all six domains in one day, or divide the review into two half-day sessions and review three domains on one ½ day and three on another ½ day.
- The **report of findings and improvement planning session** is most effective if agendas are planned to allow time for a discussion of findings, targeting areas for intervention, and conducting some preliminary planning for next steps.

QM Process Facilitation

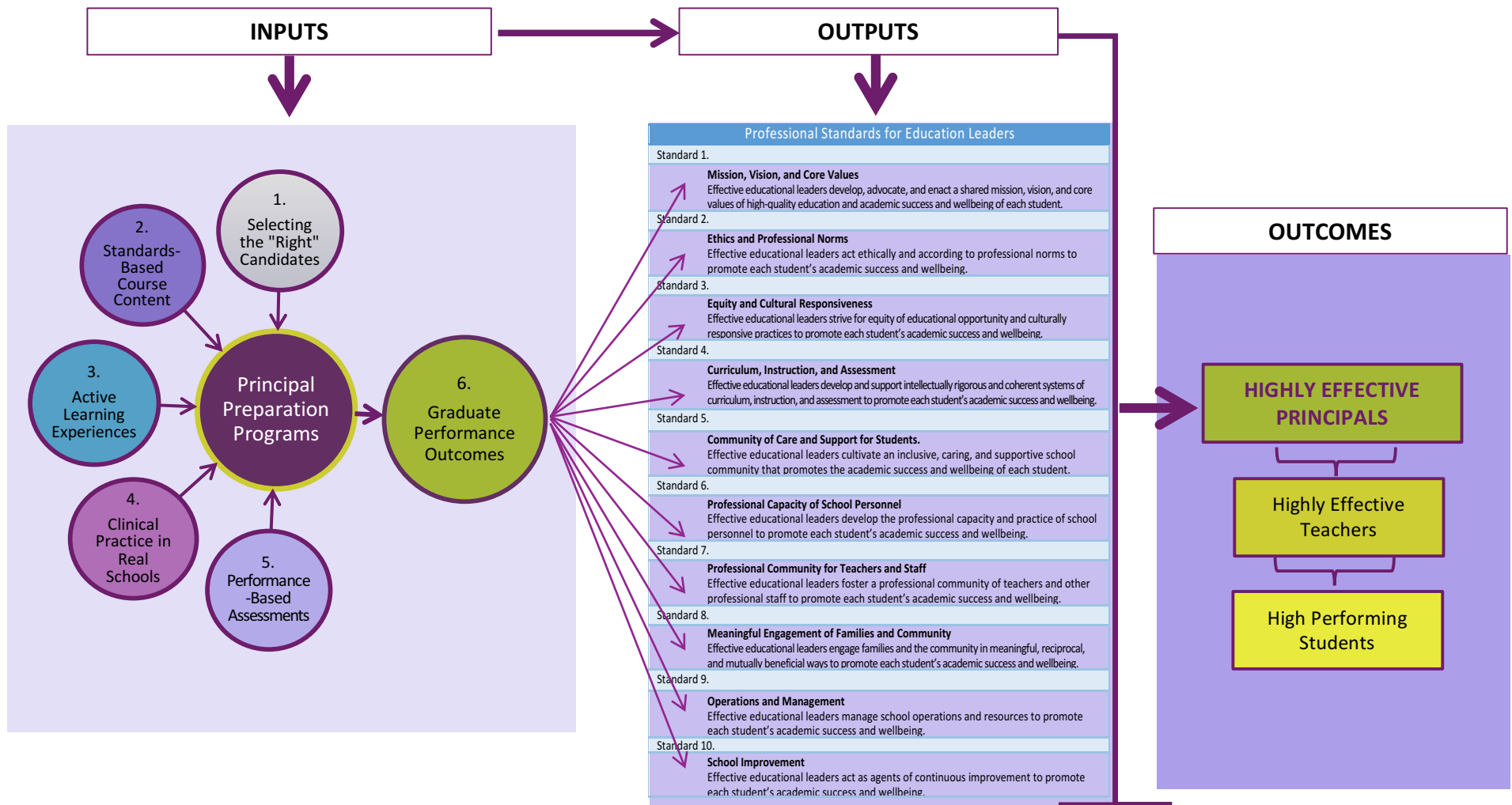
Quality Measures offers users the option of having a trained QM facilitator to moderate the process for conducting the complete program self-study from a position of neutrality. Based on responses from QM users, choosing to use a trained QM process facilitator to support the program self-study has proven to be an invaluable resource in helping self-study teams to:

- Understand the goals, objectives, and process for conducting a QM program self-study
- Plan how to accomplish objectives within a specified timeframe (roles, responsibilities, logistics, group process norms)
- Manage difficult conversations and differences of opinion using specific protocols
- Submit self-study data for organization and interpretation using QM electronic platform
- Understand initial reports of findings, conclusions, and recommendations for next steps
- Access examples of exemplary practices electronically using the QM Exemplar Catalogue

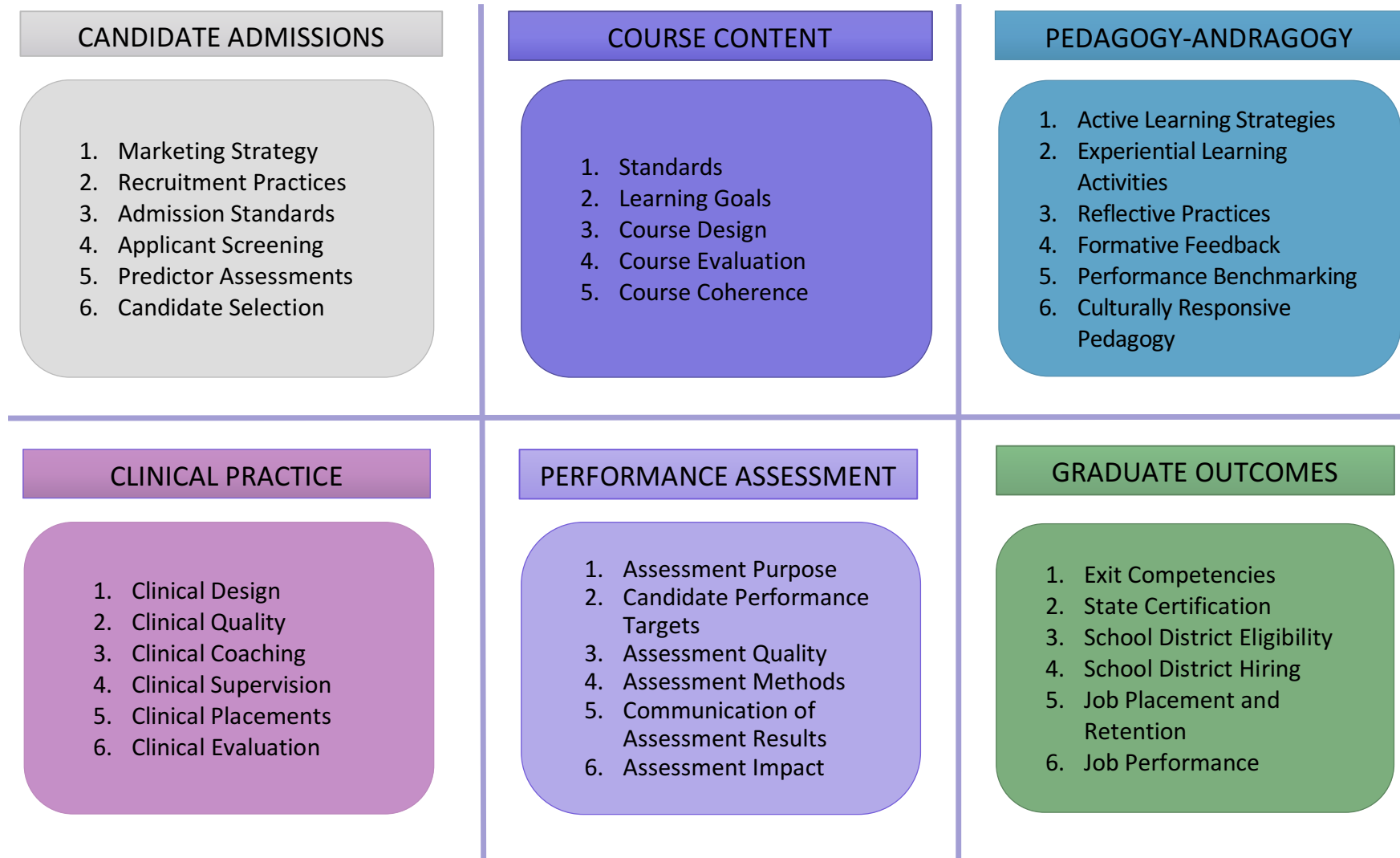
Under certain conditions, a program may opt to independently use the QM toolkit to engage in a program self-study without the support of a trained QM facilitator. For example, a program may have already completed a professionally facilitated process and is interested in using the tool as a resource for team discussions of selected program domains. The tool can also be used effectively as a framework for program design/redesign. The complete Quality Measures Toolkit is an open source document that can be downloaded from www.edc.org or www.wallacefoundation.org for independent use by program teams.

For more information about enlisting the support of a trained QM facilitator to work with your self-study team, please contact the Quality Measures Center at qmcenter@edc.org.

Operating Theory of Change



Program Domains and Indicators at a Glance



Supporting Evidence

The QM self-study process uses an evidence-based protocol that asks teams to provide proof that programs meet the indicator criteria for a particular level on the rating continuum. For these purposes, six types of evidence are described in the table below: numerical, documents, demonstrational, observational, inferential, and anecdotal. *Numerical data*, demonstrating degree of implementation, are considered to be the strongest proof of effectiveness. *Documents, demonstrations, and observations*, though strong forms of evidence, involve some degree of inference and subjectivity and are generally rated from 5 (stronger) to 3 (moderate). *Inferential and anecdotal data* are considered to be inconclusive types of evidence and are rated as 2 (weak) and 1 (weakest), respectively.

The following table is provided to assist with assembling and classifying supporting evidence for discussion and rating purposes. It displays six types of supporting evidence, and includes a short description for each type. Finally, illustrative examples for each type and level of evidence are provided by program domain and are included for reference purposes.

Evidence Type	Strength	Description	QM Domain (Example)	Illustrative Examples of Evidence
<i>Numerical data</i>	6 Strongest	Quantitative data that use numbers (or statistics) to support a position. This type of evidence is based on tracking system data, survey or poll results.	○ Candidate Admissions	○ Longitudinal applicant data reports ○ Longitudinal admissions data ○ Student survey data ○ Predictor assessment data
<i>Documents</i>	5 Stronger	Written forms of proof such as documents, catalogs, textbooks, other. Can also include other types of media, such as images, video or audio recordings, etc.	○ Course Content	○ Course syllabi ○ Program scope and sequence ○ Standards alignment matrices
<i>Demonstrations</i>	4 Strong	An object or document is considered to be demonstration evidence when it directly demonstrates fact/indicator criteria.	○ Pedagogy-Andragogy	○ Instructional videos used to demonstrate or model a specific practice
<i>Observations</i>	3 Moderate	Record of something actually seen and recorded – involves some inference; documented by observer.	○ Performance Assessment	○ Field observation notes ○ Video recordings of clinical observations
<i>Inferential data</i>	2 Weak	Evidence presented implies/concludes that a certain condition exists, based on inconclusive data.	○ Clinical Practice	○ Conclusions drawn without sufficient data
<i>Anecdotal data</i>	1 Weakest	Evidence is primarily based on hearsay; unreliable, subjective, questionable.	○ Graduate Outcomes	○ Letter of reference from field supervisor ○ Anecdotal feedback (verbal)

QM Rubrics

Domain 1: Candidate Admissions

While candidate recruitment is a vital component leading to the success of a school, research shows that less than half of all higher education institutions have a clear strategy that guides the development of their recruitment efforts.¹ While institutions are relying more on social media and digital presence to define their brand and attract students, most popular are the traditional forms of outreach that are event-driven and involve direct interaction with prospective students.² A more selective, probing process for selecting candidates for training is thought to be an essential first step in creating a more capable and diverse corps of future principals.³ Effective programs probe to determine if applicants have the needed experience, leadership skills, aptitudes and dispositions to achieve district goals and improve instruction under trying conditions.⁴ Meta-analyses of psychology research studies suggest that the best way to forecast leadership is to use a combination of cognitive ability, personality, simulation, role-play, and multi-rater assessment instruments and techniques.⁵ Bray (1982) reported that these assessment data were reasonably valid predictors of a person's promotion record.^{6,7}

QM Indicators of Effective Candidate Admissions:

1. Marketing Strategy
2. Recruitment Practices
3. Admissions Standards
4. Applicant Screening
5. Predictor Assessments
6. Candidate Selection

¹ Frolich, N., & Stensaker, B. (2010). Student recruitment strategies in higher education: promoting excellence and diversity? *International Journal of Educational Management*, 24(4), 359-370.

² Noel Levitz, R. (2016). *Marketing and student recruitment practices benchmark report for four-year colleges and universities*. Cedar Rapids, IA: Ruffalo Noel Levitz. Retrieved from www.RuffaloNL.com/BenchmarkReports

³ Mitgang, L. (2012). *The making of the principal: Five lessons in leadership training*. Wallace Perspective Series. New York: The Wallace Foundation.

⁴ Ibid., 5

⁵ Hogan, R., Curphy, G. J., & Hogan, J. (1994). What we know about leadership: Effectiveness and personality. *American Psychologist*, 49(6), 493-504.

⁶ Howard, A. (1986). College experiences and managerial performance. *Journal of Applied Psychology*, 71(3), 530-552. doi: 10.1037/0021-9010.71.3.530

⁷ Bray, D. W., & Howard, A. (1983). The AT&T longitudinal studies of managers. In K. W. Schaie (Ed.), *Longitudinal studies of adult psychological development* (pp. 112-146). New York: Guilford.

Domain 1: Candidate Admissions

QM INDICATORS		QM CRITERIA	LEVELS OF EFFECTIVENESS			
			4 - Meets ALL criteria	3 - Meets MOST criteria	2 - Meets SOME criteria	1 - Meets FEW/NO criteria
1	Marketing Strategy	A comprehensive marketing strategy is based on the following data: 1) an in-depth analysis of the current and future market for school principals in the region; 2) an assessment of program strengths and weaknesses; 3) the identification of market opportunities and threats that will positively or negatively impact efforts to attract the best, brightest, and most diverse talent to apply for admission to your program.				
2	Recruitment Practices	Recruitment practices are part of a strategic plan that builds on program strengths and opportunities identified in the market analyses. Practices are designed to attract applicants who have the maximum potential for becoming effective school leaders in chronically low-performing schools. Practices include: social media, a digital presence (website with analytics), and event-based outreach that involves direct interaction with prospective students. There is evidence that intentional strategies are being implemented to expand the ethnic and gender diversity of candidate pools.				
3	Admission Standards	Admission standards for the program include a requirement that applicants provide documented evidence of prior experience in leading change, fostering collaboration, and contributing to the professional growth and development of others.				
4	Applicant Screening	Applications are screened to ensure that applicants meet admission standards including evidence of prior experience leading change, fostering collaboration, and supporting the growth and development of professional staff.				
5	Predictor Assessments	Screened applicants participate in a combination of cognitive ability, personality, simulation, role-play, and multi-rater assessment instruments and techniques as the final step in the applicant screening process.				
6	Candidate Selection	Candidate final selection processes include a formal interview of finalists by a committee comprised of program faculty and school district staff to confirm that applicants are: 1) genuinely motivated to lead a chronically low performing school, 2) likely to successfully complete program requirements, and 3) are viewed as potential hires by the school district.				

Domain 2: Course Content

The most important development in university teaching over the past few years has been the shift from teaching seen as an *individual* responsibility to one that the *institution* should assume in matters of assessment practice and overall teaching design. McMahon and Thakore (2006), in a comprehensive review of higher order thinking and critical thinking in constructively aligned courses, found that constructive alignment^{8,9} (*the process for linking teaching and learning activities with assessment tasks, to directly address the intended learning outcomes*) led to:

- Increased standardization – *leading to fairer and more reliable assessment;*
- Greater transparency – *leading to (a) easier and more accurate inter-university and international comparisons, (b) students being able to focus more effectively on the key learning goals;*
- More effective evaluation of both modules and courses;
- Increased ability of evaluator to determine how well teaching and learning strategies, content, materials, other resources and assessment procedures actually support students in achieving learning goals;
- Greater coherence in programs of learning; and
- An increase in the criticality and depth of student work.

QM Indicators of Effective Course Content:

1. Standards
2. Learning Goals
3. Course Design
4. Course Evaluation
5. Course Coherence

⁸ Note: The term *constructive alignment* was first coined by Professor John Biggs and represents a marriage between a constructivist understanding of the nature of learning, and an aligned design for outcomes-based teaching education.

⁹ Biggs, J. B., & Tang, C. (2007). *Teaching for quality learning at university: What the student does* (3rd ed.). New York: McGraw-Hill Education.

Domain 2: Course Content

QM INDICATORS		QM CRITERIA	LEVELS OF EFFECTIVENESS			
			4 - Meets ALL criteria	3 - Meets MOST criteria	2 - Meets SOME criteria	1 - Meets FEW/NO criteria
1	Standards	Courses are based on leader performance standards and designed to develop leader competencies including: 1) agency for change; 2) parent-community-school partnerships; 3) professional capacity building; 4) student centered learning; 5) instructional guidance and support; 6) culturally responsive teaching and learning.				
2	Learning Goals	Courses articulate clear learning goals for candidates that identify <i>both</i> the leader behavior to be developed and the context within which the behavior will be performed.				
3	Course Design	Course designs explicitly connect course content, learning activities, resources and materials, and course assessment measures.				
4	Course Evaluation	Course evaluations are audited on a regular schedule to ensure that assessment tasks and criteria clearly and directly relate to intended learning outcomes.				
5	Course Coherence	Courses are organized and logically sequenced to ensure that: concepts, knowledge, and skills build upon each other in a structured progression of learning, and learning in one course mirrors learning in the same course taught by a different instructor including methods used to evaluate learning.				

Domain 3: Pedagogy-Andragogy

Key indicators of effective pedagogy-andragogy emerge from reviews of empirical studies on transformative learning and are rooted in deeply held assumptions about the nature of adult learning and purposes of teaching for change. When taken together, they seek to establish a reciprocal relationship between the practices and the theoretical orientation of transformative learning that can provide a lens for making meaning and guiding transformative leader practice.

QM Indicators of Effective Pedagogy-Andragogy:

1. Active Learning Strategies
2. Experiential Learning Activities
3. Reflective Practices
4. Formative Feedback
5. Performance Benchmarking
6. Culturally Responsive Pedagogy

Domain 3: Pedagogy-Andragogy

QM INDICATORS		QM CRITERIA	LEVELS OF EFFECTIVENESS			
			4 - Meets ALL criteria	3 - Meets MOST criteria	2 - Meets SOME criteria	1 - Meets FEW/NO criteria
1	Active Learning Strategies	Courses consistently use active learning strategies including project-based and case-based instruction to engage candidates in the content being studied.				
2	Experiential Learning Activities	Courses include structured experiential learning activities in which learners apply new learning and become familiar with various real-world contexts and associated skill requirements.				
3	Reflective Practices	Courses incorporate reflective practices as a standard of practice in developing the essential habit of self-examination and continuous improvement of one's practice.				
4	Formative Feedback	Courses use formative feedback as an essential tool in guiding learning toward stated goals, objectives and performance benchmarks.				
5	Performance Benchmarking	Courses provide candidates with performance benchmarks of best practices for use in reflecting upon and refining specific competencies being developed.				
6	Culturally Responsive Pedagogy	Courses use culturally responsive methods to develop leader competencies at the personal, instructional, and institutional level.				

Domain 4: Clinical Practice

Clinical practice is defined as a form of experiential learning that integrates knowledge and theory learned in courses with practical application and skill development in a real-world, professional setting. These experiences are intended to give students the opportunity to gain valuable applied knowledge and make connections to the professional field being considered as a possible career path. Additionally, it gives prospective employers the opportunity to guide and evaluate talent.¹⁰

Practicums and internships are two forms of school-based experiential learning often used by preparation programs and school districts to provide aspiring principals with experiential learning experiences in real school settings.

Practicum	Internship
<p>A component of some educational programs where students are placed in a real-world setting (i.e., classroom or school) to observe the work of professionals while also spending some time performing assigned tasks themselves. Typically, students are also enrolled in a course connected to the practicum for deeper understanding and meaningful facilitation of what is being learned during the experience.</p>	<p>A short-term opportunity for students to work (paid or unpaid) for an employer where, ideally, their academic learning can be applied to real-world tasks. A structured academic program where students “learn and earn” by working at a job site while taking a limited number of academic courses. Apprenticeships can take between 3-4 years, often require on-the-job training, and can lead to professional certification and often full-time employment at the job site.</p>

QM Indicators of Effective Clinical Practice:

1. Clinical Design
2. Clinical Quality
3. Clinical Coaching
4. Clinical Supervision
5. Clinical Placements
6. Clinical Evaluation

¹⁰ National Association of Colleges and Employers (2011). *Position statement: U.S. internships*. Retrieved from www.naceweb.org/advocacy/position-statements/united-states-internships.aspx

Domain 4: Clinical Practice						
QM INDICATORS		QM CRITERIA	LEVELS OF EFFECTIVENESS			
			4 - Meets ALL criteria	3 - Meets MOST criteria	2 - Meets SOME criteria	1 - Meets FEW/NO criteria
1	Clinical Design	Clinical designs are co-developed by academic faculty, prospective employers, and candidates. They are anchored to academic coursework and articulate clear and specific learning <i>and</i> career development goals/targets for each candidate.				
2	Clinical Quality	Clinical experiences are guided by criterion standards and data systems that produce actionable information on the quality and efficacy of clinical experiences. Standards include expectations for the duration of the clinical experience, relevant high-level leadership tasks, high-quality onsite guidance and modeling, coordination between academic program and school sites to ensure high-quality learning experiences for candidates.				
3	Clinical Coaching	Candidates receive detailed, high-quality feedback and coaching support, from both academic staff <i>and</i> senior level professionals, on a variety of authentic, professional-level tasks.				
4	Clinical Supervision	Candidates are supervised throughout the duration of their clinical experience, by both academic staff <i>and</i> a school-site supervisor(s). Performance expectations and evaluation criteria are clearly defined, prior to beginning the clinical experience, by academic staff and school site supervisors.				
5	Clinical Placements	Clinical placements are identified by academic program staff and ensure that school sites are adequately resourced to provide candidates with a high-quality clinical experience.				
6	Clinical Evaluation	Candidate clinical evaluations are based on systematically developed program assessment criteria and used to guide field supervision and evaluation appropriate for a specific clinical context.				

Domain 5: Performance Assessment

Criterion-referenced assessments are designed to measure candidate performance against a fixed set of predetermined criteria or learning standards—i.e., concise, written descriptions of what candidates are expected to know and be able to do at a specific stage of their education. They are used to evaluate whether candidates have learned a specific body of knowledge or acquired a specific skill set. If candidates perform at or above the established expectations, they are deemed to be proficient. In a fully criterion-referenced system, objectives (learning outcomes) define what students need to know and be able to do (content), how they will be taught (pedagogy), and how learning will be assessed.¹¹ In a criterion-referenced system of assessment, instructor responsibilities include linking/scaffolding learning and teaching activities to the intended outcomes and structuring assessments appropriate to the level of learning expected.

QM Indicators of Effective Performance Assessment:

1. Assessment Purpose
2. Candidate Performance Targets
3. Assessment Quality
4. Assessment Methods
5. Communication of Assessment Results
6. Assessment Impact

¹¹ Biggs, J. B., & Tang, C. (2011). *Teaching for quality learning at university: What the student does* (4th ed.). New York: McGraw-Hill Education.

Domain 5: Performance Assessment

QM INDICATORS		QM CRITERIA	LEVELS OF EFFECTIVENESS			
			4 - Meets ALL criteria	3 - Meets MOST criteria	2 - Meets SOME criteria	1 - Meets FEW/NO criteria
1	Assessment Purpose	Assessments are designed to collect evidence of candidate progress toward proficiency that is then used to inform instructional decisions.				
2	Candidate Performance Targets	Candidate performance targets are clearly articulated and align with high-priority leader performance standards that form the foundation for candidate assessments.				
3	Assessment Quality	Assessments facilitate valid evaluation of complex competencies, promote learning, and are complemented with exemplars and/or models of performance. Assessments make expectations and criteria explicit which enables feedback and promotes self-assessment.				
4	Assessment Methods	Assessment methods are tightly linked to learning targets and collect both formative and summative data that provide a sufficient sample of candidate performance data to reliably infer levels of proficiency for a particular performance target.				
5	Communication of Assessment Results	Methods for communicating candidate assessment data produce accurate, timely, and immediately usable information about the level of candidate mastery of performance target(s).				
6	Assessment Impact	Candidates use assessment data and continuous improvement processes to take charge of their own progress toward performance mastery and growth over time.				

Domain 6: Graduate Performance Outcomes

Outcomes are clear learning results that we want students to demonstrate at the end of significant learning experiences. They are not values, beliefs, attitudes, or psychological states of mind. Instead, outcomes are what learners can actually do with what they know and have learned. They are the tangible application of what has been learned. This means that outcomes are actions and performances that embody and reflect learner competence in using content, information, ideas, and tools successfully. Having learners do important things with what they know is a major step beyond knowing itself. Because outcomes involve actual doing, rather than just knowing or a variety of other purely mental processes, they must be defined according to the actions or demonstration processes being sought.¹²

QM Indicators of Effective Principal Preparation:

1. Exit Competencies
2. State Certification
3. School District Eligibility
4. School District Hiring
5. Job Placement and Retention^{13,14}
6. Job Performance

¹² Spady, W. G. (1994). *Outcome-based education: Critical issues and answers*. Arlington, VA: American Association of School Administrators.

¹³ Daloisio, J. (2017). *Principal churn: A case study on principal turnover and strategies to build sustainability and continuity* (Doctoral dissertation). Retrieved from <http://d-scholarship.pitt.edu/33237/>

¹⁴ Goldring, R., & Taie, S. (2014). *Principal attrition and mobility: Results from the 2012–13 Principal Follow-up Survey* (NCES 2014-064rev). Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. Retrieved from <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch> (accessed 2017 October)

Domain 6: Graduate Performance Outcomes

QM INDICATORS		QM CRITERIA	LEVELS OF EFFECTIVENESS			
			4 - Meets ALL criteria	3 - Meets MOST criteria	2 - Meets SOME criteria	1 - Meets FEW/NO criteria
1	Exit Competencies	Candidates demonstrate program exit competencies required to become education leaders, based on program exit exams, professional standards for educational leaders, <i>and</i> local school district performance expectations for principal and assistant principal.				
2	State Certification	Program graduates are certified and licensed by the state upon program completion or advanced to the next level of the state certification process.				
3	School District Eligibility	Eligible program graduates are admitted into one or more school district applicant pools and are eligible to be interviewed for principal and/or assistant principal positions.				
4	School District Hiring	Eligible program graduates are hired as principals and/or assistant principal leadership positions within one year of program completion or progress to the next level of the hiring process.				
5	Job Placement and Retention	Program graduates hired by a school district are placed in vacancies in chronically low performing schools and remain in the same position for at least three years.				
6	Job Performance	Program graduates placed in leadership positions either meet or exceed expectations on district performance evaluations during their induction period.				

Glossary of Terms

This glossary of terms is included here as a quick reference tool for self-study teams engaged in the process of examining their principal preparation program practices using Quality Measures™ rubrics. The glossary is intended to offer general definitions of terms to assist teams in developing a shared understanding of indicators associated with each program domain.

Domain 1: Candidate Admissions

Marketing Strategy: A comprehensive plan for recruiting a diverse pool of highly qualified applicants to enroll in the institution's principal preparation program.

Recruitment Practices: Specific actions taken by programs to attract applicants who demonstrate strong potential for becoming effective school leaders. Practices may include: strategic social media, digital campaigns (website with analytics), event-based outreach that involves direct interaction with prospective students, and other practices that target ethnic and gender specific applicants.

Admissions Standards: Admission standards define the specific requirements for screening program applications and selecting candidates for admission.

Applicant Screening: Refers to specific processes designed and implemented to screen applications in order to identify highly qualified applicants who meet program admission requirements.

Predictor Assessments: A battery of assessments used as part of the applicant screening process to predict different leadership behaviors (e.g., task-oriented behaviors, relational-oriented behaviors, and change-oriented behaviors).

Candidate Selection: Processes used to select candidate for admission to the program. May include face-to-face interviews, job shadows, reference checks. May involve a selection committee comprised of program faculty and school district staff.

Domain 2: Course Content

Standards Based: Refers to Professional Standards for School Leaders (PSEL).

Learning Goals: Learning goals clearly define the purpose for the learning (i.e., what the learner should know and be able to do as a result of the instruction). When developed by the learner, in collaboration with the instructor, learning goals help to create a shared understanding and focus for the learning and also provide a guide for developing short- and long-term measures to assess results.

Constructive Alignment: Refers to the process for devising teaching and learning activities, and assessment tasks, to directly address the intended learning outcomes. The term *constructive alignment* was first coined by Professor John Biggs and represents a marriage between a constructivist understanding of the nature of learning and an aligned design for outcomes-based teaching education.

Course Design: An approach to designing curriculum that integrates learning goals, course content, learning activities, resources and materials, and course assessment measures.

Course Evaluation: The process of gathering information about the impact of learning and of teaching practice on student learning, analyzing and interpreting that information, and responding to and acting on the results.

Course Coherence: Refers to a set of interrelated courses and learning experiences that are logically sequenced (vertically aligned) and guided by a common framework/design for curriculum, instruction, assessment, and learning climate, and pursued over a sustained period of time.

Domain 3: Pedagogy-Andragogy

Pedagogy-Andragogy: Pedagogy, as used here, refers to the field of study that deals mainly with methods of teaching and learning in schools; while andragogy refers to *the art or science of teaching adults* (Malcolm Knowles first coined this term in 1970). Andragogy is based on a humanistic conception of self-directed and autonomous learners and teachers as facilitators of learning. Important Note: Malcolm Knowles himself changed his position on whether andragogy really applied only to adults and came to believe that "pedagogy-andragogy represents a continuum ranging from teacher-directed to student-directed learning and that both approaches are appropriate with children and adults, depending on the situation." Hanson (1996) argues that the difference in learning is NOT related to the age and stage of one's life, but instead related to individual characteristics and the differences in "context, culture and power" within different educational settings.

Active Learning: A method of learning that engages students in two aspects of the learning process – doing things and thinking about the things they are doing.

Experiential Learning: The process of learning through experience. More specifically defined as "learning through reflection on doing." Experiential learning is distinct from rote or didactic learning, the latter in which the learner plays a comparatively passive role.

Reflective Practice: Involves the practice of reflecting on one's actions as a way to engage in a process of continuous learning. According to one definition, reflective practices involve "paying critical attention to the practical values and theories which inform everyday actions."

Formative Feedback: Ongoing feedback throughout the learning process that can be used by instructors to improve their teaching and by students to improve their learning.

Performance Benchmarking: A way of discovering what is the best performance being achieved – whether in a particular course, in a competitor program, or in an entirely different industry. This information can then be used to identify gaps in program content and processes in order to improve outcomes and achieve a competitive advantage.

Culturally Responsive Pedagogy: An instructional method that is grounded in teachers' displaying skill at teaching in a cross-cultural or multicultural setting. Enables students to relate course content to their own cultural experiences.

Domain 4: Clinical Practice

Clinical Design: Refers to the essential elements of an effective experiential learning experience that integrates knowledge and theory learned in the classroom with practical application and skills development in a professional school setting. Essential elements include learning goals that are structured into the learning experience and supervised by a professional with relevant and related background in the field. The overall clinical design balances the intern's learning goals with the organization's (school) needs. May be part-time or full-time.

Clinical Quality: Refers to the degree to which clinical designs incorporate the design elements that result in desired learner performance outcomes.

Clinical Coaching: Refers to the dedicated time supervisors and/or coaches spend observing and providing feedback to interns on both accomplishments and areas for improvement. Includes intentional support in the intern's transition from the classroom to the workplace.

Clinical Supervision: Refers to the level of guidance and oversight provided to interns. Generally includes: familiarizing them with the school assignment, providing assignments, and serving as a "contact" person for questions. Internship supervision should be conducted by an expert in the type of work the intern(s) will be performing to provide the appropriate guidance for the intern's assignments. An intern supervisor's responsibilities typically include: taking part in an intern's placement, screening, and interview process; conducting the intern orientation;

developing intern learning goals; meeting with and observing an intern regularly to evaluate performance and determine if needs/goals are being met; and assessing the internship program's success.

Clinical Placements: Refers to the professional schools identified for interns to complete the experiential segment of their preparation and training.

Clinical Evaluation: Refers to the evaluation of the intern's initial learning objectives identified at the start of the internship. Typically, supervisors are asked to evaluate interns at the midpoint and end of the internship. Employers are encouraged to review the internship with the intern before he or she leaves. Evaluations are helpful in determining the intern's success within the assigned school and also serve as predictors of success for future internships or employment upon graduation.

Domain 5: Performance Assessment

Formative Assessment: Provides feedback to teachers and learners throughout the teaching and learning process about what is working, what is not working, and what the student and the teacher should do next to improve.

Summative Assessment: Measures the extent to which the learner has accomplished the intended learning outcomes and contributes to the final grade. It is most often used at the end of a course of study to quantify learning achievement and provide data for determining the next level of study.

Candidate Performance Targets: Defines the specific learner performance to be accomplished by the end of the course of study as well as interim indicators of progress along the way.

Assessment Quality: As used here, assessment quality is defined as the extent to which an assessment accurately measures the performance it is intended to measure.

Assessment Methods: Refers to the strategies, techniques, tools and instruments used to collect information to determine the extent to which learners demonstrate desired learning outcomes. Several different methods should be used to assess learner outcomes.

Communication of Assessment Results: Refers to the methods and timelines used to communicate progress toward performance targets and learning goals to learners.

Assessment Impact: Refers to the methods used to determine the effects of teaching and learning on changes in learner behaviors, either intended or unintended.

Domain 6: Graduate Performance Outcomes

Exit Competencies: A general statement that describes the desired knowledge, skills, and behaviors of a student graduating from a program (or completing a course). Competencies commonly define the applied skills and knowledge that enable people to successfully perform in professional, educational, and other life contexts.

State Certification: The certification process is different for each state, but most states require an in-depth analysis of a potential principal's background, as well as exams that test his or her knowledge of running a school.

School District Eligibility: Refers to the number of graduates from certified principal preparation programs who meet school district requirements and, as a result, are eligible to be interviewed by the school district for the position of school principal. Requirements for hiring eligibility vary by school district.

School District Hiring: Refers to the number of graduates from certified principal preparation programs who are hired by school districts as school principals.

Job Placement and Retention: Refers to the number of graduates from certified principal preparation programs who are placed as first-year principals or assistant principals in chronically low performing schools, and their tenure in the position.

Job Performance: Refers to the number of graduates from certified principal preparation programs who meet or exceed school district performance expectations as reflected in performance evaluations conducted during the first three years of induction.

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