

2021-2022 Assessment Cycle

## Assessment Findings

### Program Assessment Accomplishments

Our program has submitted its Annual Report of Current Status to our profession's accrediting body the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC). We have received the affirmation letter stating that we have met or exceeded all currently set "thresholds" for success on each of the required outcome measures. The 2021 letter of affirmation was provided to the Dean of the School of Applied Studies and the President of the University. The current accreditation standards for the profession have been provided to the University Assessment team as evidence of how and what "Reporting Program Outcomes" are submitted to the profession's accrediting body.

Each year, we submit an annual report of our program to the Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC). Once reviewed, a letter of affirmation is sent to President Farley, the SAS Dean, and the Program Director (me), indicating that we have or have not met the CoARC outcomes. Each year for 30+ years, we have met or exceeded those specific outcomes. These outcomes for CoARC are identical to all of our WU PSLO's. Thus, an affirmation letter would indicate that we have met both our accrediting body's outcomes and the university's.

### Finding per Measure

#### AS-RT Outcome Set

PSLO 1

#### Outcome: Comprehend, apply, and evaluate medical information

Demonstrate the ability to comprehend, apply, and evaluate medical information relevant to a registered respiratory therapist.

#### ▼ Measure: Clinical Practice

*Program level Direct - Other*

Details/Description:


Performance Assessment (Off campus experience – Clinical, Internship, Practicum, etc.)

Acceptable Target:

Eighty-five percent (85%) of graduates will average a score on Daily Clinical Evaluation Forms of "3" or

Better (on a 1-5 Likert Scale) in all clinical courses (AL 187, AL 289, AL 293, and AL 295).

Supporting Attachments:

 Student Daily Evaluation (Adobe Acrobat Document)

### Findings for Clinical Practice

Summary of Findings: All graduates that enrolled in AL 295 successfully completed the course with a "C" or higher. One part of successful completion is maintaining an average score of "3" or higher on all daily evaluations. This is outlined in the student's Clinical Manual. p. 71, item "H". "The students are expected to receive a "3" or better in each area evaluated on the Student Daily Evaluations.


Any time a cumulative score is below a "3", it is grounds for dismissal from the program." These evaluations are collected weekly and summarized at the end of the semester when they are reviewed with the student by program faculty. Thus, a student would not pass the course without meeting this requirement.

Results : Acceptable Target Achievement: Exceeded


Recommendations: Continue to monitor.

Reflections/Notes: See attached evidence.

Substantiating Evidence:

 2021 Affirmation Letter from the Commission of Accreditation of Respiratory Care (CoARC) (Adobe Acrobat Document)

This letter states we have met or exceeded all accreditation standards. Including those described in this measure.

 AL 295 Clinic Manual Excerpt - 2021 AL 295 Policy Section.pdf (Adobe Acrobat Document)

This document describes the policy in which we assess the student's skills and behaviors in the affective domain, both on and off-campus. It also describes the policy for monitoring our "target" for this measure on p. 71, item "H".

 [Current CoARC Accreditation Standards \(Adobe Acrobat Document\)](#)

The current accreditation standards for the profession. Please note p. 24 at the bottom of the page regarding Student Evaluation. If we were found to be non-compliant, we would not have received our "Letter of Affirmation" from CoARC.

▼ **Measure:** Course Grades

*Program level Direct - Other*

Details/Description: Eighty percent (80%) of graduates will score a grade of 75% or better in their final clinical course (AL 295).

Acceptable Target: Eighty percent (80%) of graduates will score a grade of 75% or better in their final clinical course (AL 295).

Findings for Course Grades

Summary of Findings: All of the 2021 graduates enrolled in AL 295 successfully completed the course with a grade of 75% or higher.

Results : Acceptable Target Achievement: Exceeded

Recommendations: Continue to monitor.

Reflections/Notes: This is rhetorical, the student would not graduate if they could not successfully complete AL 295.

▼ **Measure:** Employer and Graduate Survey


*Program level Indirect - Survey*

Details/Description:	Six to twelve (6 - 12) months following graduation, graduates and employers of graduates are surveyed.
Acceptable Target:	Employer Surveys – 80% of the responses rated 3 or higher on a 5 point Likert scale.  Graduate Surveys - 80% of the responses rated 3 or higher on a 5 point Likert scale.

Findings for Employer and Graduate Survey

Summary of Findings:	We have met all of these outcomes as they are the same outcomes identified by our accrediting agency the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC). Please refer to the attached documents for evidence these items have been met.
Results :	Acceptable Target Achievement: Exceeded
Recommendations:	Continue to monitor.
Reflections/Notes:	See attached evidence.

Substantiating Evidence:

 2021 Affirmation Letter from the Commission of Accreditation of Respiratory Care (CoARC) (Adobe Acrobat Document)

This letter states we have met or exceeded all accreditation standards. Including those described in this measure.

 Current CoARC Accreditation Standards (Adobe Acrobat Document)

The current accreditation standards for the profession. Please note p. 27 and the highlighted paragraph at the bottom of the page regarding Graduate and Employer Surveys.

▼ **Measure:** Professional Credentialing Exam

*Program level Direct - Exam*

Details/Description: Upon graduation, students must successfully pass the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC) exam to earn their credentials.

Acceptable Target: Eighty percent (80%) of students will successfully complete the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC) Exam.

Findings for Professional Credentialing Exam


Summary of Findings: Upon graduation, students must successfully pass the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC) exam to earn their credentials.

Results : Acceptable Target Achievement: Exceeded

Recommendations: Continue to monitor.

Reflections/Notes: See attached evidence.

Substantiating Evidence:

 2021 Affirmation Letter from the Commission of Accreditation of Respiratory Care (CoARC) (Adobe Acrobat Document)

Because our PSLO's are mapped to our accrediting body's outcomes (CoARC Outcomes), the letter states that we have met all of the required CoARC outcomes. This is necessary for us to even have a Respiratory Therapy program at Washburn.

 2022 Annual School Summary (Adobe Acrobat Document)

The 2022 Annual School Summary provides a 3-year retrospective view of our graduates' performance on the national TMC Board Exam.

This item indicates the number of graduates who took and successfully passed the credentialing exam. Some graduates continue their education in other programs such as the Sonography program, BHS program, or other health-related professions.

## PSLO 2

### **Outcome: Demonstrate technical proficiency**

Demonstrate the technical proficiency in all skills necessary to function as a registered respiratory therapist.

#### ▼ **Measure:** Clinical Practice *Program level Direct - Other*

Details/Description:	Performance Assessment (Off-campus experience – Clinical, Internship, Practicum, etc.)
Acceptable Target:	Eighty-five percent (85%) of graduates will average a score on Daily Clinical Evaluation Forms of “3” or Better (on a 1-5 Likert Scale) in all clinical courses (AL 187, AL 289, AL 293, and AL 295).

#### Findings for Clinical Practice


Summary of Findings: All students initially enrolled in AL 295 successfully completed the course with a "C" or higher. One part of successful completion is maintaining an average score of "3" or higher on all daily evaluations. This is outlined in the student's Clinical Manual. p. 65, item "H". "The students are expected to receive a “3” or better in each area evaluated on the Student Daily Evaluations. Any time a cumulative score is below a “3”, it is grounds for dismissal from the program."

These evaluations are collected weekly and summarized at the end of the semester when

they are reviewed with the student by the program faculty. Thus, a student would not pass the course without meeting this requirement.

Results : Acceptable Target Achievement: Exceeded  
Recommendations: Continue to monitor.  
Reflections/Notes: See attached evidence.


Substantiating Evidence:

 2021 Affirmation Letter from the Commission of Accreditation of Respiratory Care (CoARC) (Adobe Acrobat Document)

This letter states we have met or exceeded all accreditation standards. Including those described in this measure.

 Current CoARC Accreditation Standards (Adobe Acrobat Document)

The current accreditation standards for the profession. Please note p. 24 at the bottom of the page regarding Student Evaluation. If we were found to be non-compliant, we would not have received our "Letter of Affirmation" from CoARC.

 Student Daily Evaluation (Adobe Acrobat Document)

Daily Clinical Evaluation of Student

▼ **Measure:** Course Grades  
*Program level Direct - Other*

Details/Description: Eighty percent (80%) of graduates will score a grade of 75% or better in their final clinical course (AL 295).  
Acceptable Target: Eighty percent (80%) of graduates will score a grade of 75% or better in their final clinical course (AL 295).

### Findings for Course Grades

Summary of Findings:	All students initially enrolled in AL 295 successfully completed the course with a grade of 75% or higher.
Results :	Acceptable Target Achievement: Exceeded
Recommendations:	Continue to monitor.
Reflections/Notes:	This can be confirmed through the Registrar. This is rhetorical, the student would not graduate if they could not successfully complete AL 295.

### ▼ **Measure:** Employer and Graduate Survey

#### *Program level Indirect - Survey*

Details/Description:	Six to twelve (6 - 12) months following graduation, graduates and employers of graduates are surveyed.
Acceptable Target:	Employer Surveys – 80% of the responses rated 3 or higher on a 5 point Likert scale.  Graduate Surveys - 80% of the responses rated 3 or higher on a 5 point Likert scale.


### Findings for Employer and Graduate Survey

Summary of Findings:	We have met all of these outcomes as they are the same outcomes identified by our accrediting agency the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC).  Please refer to the attached documents for evidence these items have been met.
Results :	Acceptable Target Achievement: Exceeded
Recommendations:	Continue to monitor.



Reflections/Notes: See attached for evidence.

Substantiating Evidence:

 2021 Affirmation Letter from the Commission of Accreditation of Respiratory Care (CoARC) (Adobe Acrobat Document)

This letter states we have met or exceeded all accreditation standards. Including those described in this measure.

 Page 9 - 10 of the 2022 Annual RCS Report (Adobe Acrobat Document)

Our professional accrediting agency requires an annual report called the Report on Current Status (RCS). Results of all assessment surveys are reported.

See p. 9-10 of the 2022 Annual RCS Report.

▼ **Measure:** Professional Credentialing Exam  
*Program level Direct - Exam*

Details/Description: Upon graduation, students must successfully pass the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC) exam to earn their credentials.

Acceptable Target: Eighty percent (80%) of students will successfully complete the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC) Exam.

Findings for Professional Credentialing Exam

Summary of Findings: We have met this threshold. The TMC Exam is also known as the Therapist Multiple Choice Exam. Graduates must pass this board exam in order to be credentialed and practice.

Results: Acceptable Target Achievement: Exceeded

Recommendations: Continue to monitor.

Reflections/Notes: See attached for evidence.

Substantiating Evidence:

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This letter states we have met or exceeded all accreditation standards. Including those described in this measure.

📎 2022 Annual School Summary (Adobe Acrobat Document)

The 2022 Annual School Summary provides a 3-year retrospective view of how our graduates performed on the national TMC Board Exam.

This item indicates the number of graduates that actually took and successfully passed the credentialing exam. Some graduates continue their education in other programs such as the Sonography program, BHS program, or other health-related professions.

### PSLO 3

#### **Outcome: Demonstrate professional behavior**

Demonstrate professional behavior consistent with employer expectations as performed by registered respiratory therapists.

#### ▼ **Measure:** Clinical Practice

*Program level Direct - Other*

Details/Description:

Performance Assessment (Off campus experience – Clinical, Internship, Practicum, etc.)

Acceptable Target:

Eighty-five percent (85%) of graduates will average a score on Daily Clinical Evaluation Forms of “3” or Better (on a 1-5 Likert Scale) in all clinical courses

## Findings for Clinical Practice

Summary of Findings: All graduates that enrolled in AL 295 successfully completed the course with a "C" or higher. One part of successful completion is maintaining an average score of "3" or higher on all daily evaluations. This is outlined in the student's Clinical Manual. p. 71, item "H". "The students are expected to receive a "3" or better in each area evaluated on the Student Daily Evaluations. Any time a cumulative score is below a "3", it is grounds for dismissal from the program."


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Results : Acceptable Target Achievement: Exceeded


Recommendations: Continue to monitor.

Reflections/Notes: See attached evidence.

### Substantiating Evidence:

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▼ **Measure:** Employer and Graduate Survey

*Program level Indirect - Survey*

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Findings for Employer and Graduate Survey

Summary of Findings: We have met all of the PSLO's as they are the same outcomes identified by our accrediting agency the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC).


Please refer to the attached documents for evidence these items have been met.

Results : Acceptable Target Achievement: Exceeded

Recommendations: Continue to monitor.

Reflections/Notes: See attached evidence.

Substantiating Evidence:

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standards. Including those described in this measure.

 [Current CoARC Accreditation Standards \(Adobe Acrobat Document\)](#)

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 [Page 9 - 10 of the 2022 Annual RCS Report \(Adobe Acrobat Document\)](#)

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## Overall Recommendations

We are on target and on course with our outcomes. Continue to monitor outcomes, standards, and performance. Submit our annual University Assessment and CoARC Annual reports. See the Affirmation letter from CoARC in the PSLO 1 area.

## Overall Reflection

The program has met or exceeded all currently set University Assessment thresholds for success on each of the required outcome measures (PLSO's).

The 2021 annual report I submitted to the Commission On Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC) found our program to have met or exceeded all currently set "thresholds" for success on each of the required CoARC outcome measures. See attachment with PSLO 1

## Faculty Collaboration

Faculty members (there are two of us) use assessment data to identify deficient areas. We then develop plans for addressing these areas to help students perform better in the classroom and the clinical setting. In addition to this information, we evaluate the individual student's performance on practice board exams and identify specific curricular areas that need to be addressed. There are three required Board-type practice exams during the student's final two semesters. In June each year, we review our graduate's actual board exam finding to determine how our graduates are performing in sub-content areas. Any deficiencies are addressed and an action plan is determined. Teaching methods and/or curriculum may be re-evaluated as indicated in the analysis.

## Communication & Collaboration with Students

Information obtained during our assessments is shared in person with the current students each year as we learn of our outcomes and letter of affirmation from CoARC.

Our program goal and mission statement are congruent with the CoARC established goals, which keeps us aligned to report the same outcomes to both CoARC and the university assessment committee.

A link to our CoARC assessment data such as graduation rates, national board exam pass rates, and employment rates is posted on our program website in accordance with the requirements of that accrediting body. This makes the information available to current and prospective students, as well as the public. The university has a link to the HLC website where similar data is shared.

## Communication & Collaboration with External Stakeholders

In 2021, we met all of our annual thresholds as reported by our national accrediting agency.

Please see evidence in the "Overall Recommendations" area. No changes are necessary at this time. Both faculty members review results from our Annual CoARC accreditation report and Annual University Assessment, and if necessary, make adjustments to our curriculum.

Assessment data for our program is shared with our advisory committee, which consists of our program's main stakeholders) each year. The public, alumni, and prospective students can access our professional outcomes for the Commission on Accreditation Respiratory Care (CoARC) on the program's web page. The CoARC link is at the bottom of the page. Our university PSLO's are tightly aligned with our profession's accrediting body (CoARC).

The university also provides a link for the HLC to program outcomes on the university's website.

## Communication & Collaboration with University

I have communicated with several individuals within the School of Applied Studies, the Allied Health department, the University Assessment Team, and the VPAA's office while developing this report.

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