Determining CRITERIA

**What are criteria?**
Criteria are the types of evidence that successfully identify achievement of the (student learning) outcome. Criteria serve as the benchmarks for judging the results of the assessment. Without specifying the criteria for success, it would be difficult to utilize assessment data to improve the program.

**How is a criteria statement developed?**
There are five elements to consider when developing a criteria statement. The table below describes each element to include when writing a statement of criteria.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elements of Criteria Statement</th>
<th>Examples</th>
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| Criteria Statement = 80% (5) of the graduates of XXXX program (1) will report employment in the field (3) on the survey (4) distributed on year after graduation (2). | Example:  
• Program majors  
• Students enrolled in specific course  
• Graduates of program  
• Employers of graduates |
| Criteria Statement = The average score (3) of the graduates of XXXX program (1) on the national XXXX exam (4) administered each spring (2) will be in the 50th percentile compared to national results (5). | Example:  
• End of program  
• Following graduation  
• After transfer  
• During employment  
• Beginning/end of course/program |
| 1. WHO will demonstrate the outcome? | Example:  
• Test score  
• Survey response  
• Clinical work |
| 2. WHEN will the outcome be demonstrated | Example:  
• Take a test  
• Complete a survey  
• Complete a project |
| 3. WHAT behavior or action will demonstrate outcome? | Example:  
• Achievement is often in expressed in a numeric expression, ex. percentage |