



A Letter from Board of Directors of AALHE

Organization Endorsement for ACCELERATE: Assessment Principles for Best Practice

AUTHOR

The 2025-26 Board of Directors of
AALHE



AALHE aspires to serve as a leading voice and advocate for championing student learning and success in higher education. The ACCELERATE principles are deeply aligned with this mission and vision, providing a timely, field-informed framework that advances assessment as a reflective, inclusive, and improvement-oriented practice.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Association for the Assessment of Learning in Higher Education (AALHE), we write to express our strong support for ACCELERATE: Assessment Principles for Best Practice and its continued development and dissemination across the field of higher education assessment.

AALHE's mission is to empower its members to cultivate and continuously improve student learning and institutional quality by facilitating scholarship and professional development, generating knowledge and resources, and creating meaningful opportunities for networking and the exchange of ideas. Guided by a vision of a vibrant community of assessment professionals, AALHE aspires to serve as a leading voice and advocate for championing student learning and success in higher education. The ACCELERATE principles are deeply aligned with this mission and vision, providing a timely, field-informed framework that advances assessment as a reflective, inclusive, and improvement-oriented practice. Building on the foundational Nine Principles of Good Practice for Assessing Student Learning, ACCELERATE addresses the changing landscape of higher education through an integrated focus on impact, collaboration, and meaningful action. The principles encourage practitioners to move beyond compliance-driven approaches and toward assessment practices that are responsive to institutional mission, attentive to student experiences, and grounded in evidence that informs decision-making and continuous improvement. In doing so, ACCELERATE reflects AALHE's long-standing commitment to assessment as a tool for learning, transparency, and positive change.

The Board particularly values the collaborative and community-engaged process through which ACCELERATE was developed. This work was informed and strengthened by the active contributions of both current and former AALHE Board members, whose leadership and stewardship helped shape the principles at multiple stages of their evolution. The inclusion of diverse institutional perspectives, professional roles, and lived experiences enhances the relevance and applicability of the principles across higher education contexts. This approach mirrors AALHE's emphasis on collective learning and shared leadership within the assessment community.

We are pleased to support the Intersection special issue focused on ACCELERATE and view it as an important next step in advancing scholarly dialogue, applied research, and reflective practice. Contributions that explore implementation, case studies, and critical reflections on the ACCELERATE principles will further enrich the field and support practitioners striving to improve assessment in meaningful and sustainable ways.

The AALHE Board affirms ACCELERATE as a significant contribution to assessment scholarship and practice, noting that the principles were previously reviewed and formally ratified by the Board. The Board looks forward to ACCELERATE's continued influence on how institutions understand, design, and use assessment to support student learning and institutional improvement.

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