



## COPRA Policy Statement 09.01.15

Based on COPRA decisions made June 2015

At its June 16-18, 2015 meeting in Portland, Oregon, the Commission on Peer Review and Accreditation (COPRA) held policy discussions and accreditation actions for the 2014-2015 cohort. The following comments build upon previous Policy Statements and provide a window into COPRA's decision-making, as well as continued guidance on the implementation of the 2009 NASPAA Accreditation Standards:

1. **Implementation Schedule for Competency-Based Assessment Conformance on Standard 5.1-Universal Required Competencies:** Unchanged from the expectations for previous cohorts, programs in the 2016-17 and 2017-18 cohorts, whose Self-Study Reports are due August 15 of 2016 and 2017, respectively, should have completed one full cycle of assessment<sup>1</sup> for student learning outcomes in at least three of the universal competency domains. Consistent with previous statements, programs should provide a detailed assessment plan, which includes direct measures as well a timeline for sustainable assessment of all universal competencies moving forward.
2. **Assessment of specializations and concentrations:** In consultation with the NASPAA Standards Committee, the Self-Study Instructions will be revised to align with a broader, less burdensome approach to Standard 5.3-Mission-Specific Elective Competencies. With a focus on truth-in-advertising, programs will be expected to identify their specializations and concentrations and capacity in offerings. (Programs will have the *option* to provide student learning outcomes information. No formal assessment of specializations/concentrations will be required.)

These revisions will be drafted for approval by the Commission in October 2015, and collected into the NASPAA Data Center for the 2016-17 Cohort Self-Study Report submission August 15, 2016.

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<sup>1</sup> A "full cycle of assessment" means defining a student learning outcome, gathering evidence of learning, analyzing the evidence, and using the analysis to make programmatic decisions.