

Self-evaluation and benchmarking checklist for academic integrity



Key principles

Academic integrity is specifically mentioned in the higher education standards framework; however it also features in almost all aspects of good practice in learning, teaching and research.

“Academic integrity is such a core requirement of higher education that it must be defended at all points where a breach could occur. The intent of the Standards is for providers to consider all potential risks to academic integrity, in learning and teaching, and in research, and take steps to control these risks” (Bretag et al., 2011 cited in TEQSA 2019).

Use this checklist to evaluate the culture and practice of academic integrity in your institution or to benchmark with institutional partners.

Please refer to the TEQSA Guidance Note: Academic Integrity (2019).

<https://www.teqsa.gov.au/latest-news/publications/guidance-note-academic-integrity>



Complying with the Higher Education Standards requirements on Academic Integrity	Evidence	Planned and implemented	Planned but not yet implemented	Not yet planned
Rate your institution's current status against the following HESF standards?				
5.2 Academic and Research Integrity				
A) Policies that promote and uphold academic integrity and policies and procedures which address allegations of misconduct				
B) Actions to mitigate foreseeable risks to academic and research integrity				
C) Guidance and training for students and staff on what constitutes academic misconduct and the development of good practices in maintaining academic integrity				
D) Academic integrity is maintained in arrangements with any other party involved in the provision of higher education				
Section 6.2 Corporate Monitoring and Accountability				
A) Governing bodies ensure that the occurrence and nature of misconduct and breaches of academic integrity are monitored, and that action is taken to address underlying causes (Standard 6.2.1j)				
Section 6.3 Academic Governance				
A) Governing academic bodies maintain oversight of academic integrity, including the monitoring of potential risks (Standard 6.3.2d)				
Section 7.2 Information for Prospective and Current Students				
A) Information on and expectations of academic integrity are available to students before their acceptance of an offer (Standard 7.2.2d)				
Section 7.3 on Information Management				
A) Unauthorised or fraudulent access is prevented to private or sensitive information, including information where unauthorised access may compromise academic integrity (Standard 7.3.3b). One example of this would be unauthorised access to students' academic records				
B) Responses to allegations of misconduct and breaches of academic integrity. Are documented and recorded. This can be the basis for analysis and identification of recurring issues.				
C) Outcomes for breaches are fair and proportional across the Institution				

Strategies for sustaining a culture of academic integrity	Evidence	Planned and implemented	Planned but not yet implemented	Not yet planned
In addition to complying with the HESF, the following are some strategies for sustaining a culture of academic integrity				
There is a top-level strategic commitment to academic integrity				
The culture of the institution encourages all staff to take responsibility for detecting and reporting on breaches				
Specific staff have responsibility for analysing and determining the consequences for more serious breaches, built into position descriptions				
Staff have access to checklists or rubrics to guide in detecting breaches				
Students have access to checklists or rubrics to guide in maintaining academic integrity				
Research training includes support for academic integrity				
Processes are in place to protect whistle blowers				
Students have input into engagement and promotion strategies for academic integrity				
Academic integrity is designed into the curriculum and addressed in subject materials for all courses				
Assessment design includes consideration of academic integrity risks, regardless of task type or delivery mode				
Policies, procedures and systems relating to academic integrity are reviewed regularly				
Assessment innovations and curriculum review processes include consideration of academic integrity				

Additional reading about maturity scales

International Centre for Academic Integrity 'Academic Integrity Rating System':

<https://www.academicintegrity.org/academic-integrity-rating-system-ai/>

Glendinning, I. (2017) 'Scorecard for academic integrity development: benchmarks and evaluation of institutional strategies'. In *Plagiarism across Europe and beyond*, conference proceedings pp 25-34. Available at http://academicintegrity.eu/conference/proceedings/2017/Glendinning_Scorecard.pdf