



**Northwest Commission on College and University (NWCCU)**  
**Annual Update for WSQA**  
**Academic Year 2012 - 2013**  
**Due October 15, 2013**

College Name: Bellingham Technical College

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<b>Accreditation recommendations to the College and year of recommendation</b>	<b>Actions taken by the college to address recommendations</b>	<b>Improvement results</b>
<p><b>Recommendation 1:</b> The evaluators found that Bellingham Technical College has made significant progress on Recommendation 1 from the 2009 Regular Interim Evaluation Report toward the creation of common language to support measurable outcomes for all course syllabi and programs. However, the evaluators did not find evidence that the campus has fully completed the assessment cycle by “closing the loop” to demonstrate that student learning has been achieved as stated. The evaluators recommend that the College continue to make progress in this area (2003 Policy 2.C and 2.C.2; 2010 Standard 4.A.3). 8</p>	<p>The College formed an assessment committee during the 2012-13 academic year to review this finding. This committee recommended an additional heading be included on all syllabi entitled “Course Outcome Assessment”. This section will directly follow the “Course Outcome” section on each syllabus. This new section will list assessments needed to support course outcomes.</p>	<p>Course outcome assessments have been included on all course syllabi.</p>

<p><b>Recommendation 2:</b> Bellingham Technical College has identified its mission and core themes, and has a solid start in connecting that mission to the allocation of resources. The evaluators recommend that the College continue to develop connections between the core theme goals and the indicators, and to more clearly define performance expectations for each indicator with baselines and benchmarks in order to articulate what successful mission fulfillment looks like and to assess the extent of mission fulfillment (Standard 1.A.2).</p>	<p>BTC formed a committee, which met regularly from spring quarter 2012 through fall quarter 2012, to address this recommendation. Committee work focused on further defining and identifying relevant data sources for each indicator and determining the most meaningful approach to measure progress across each indicator. The College temporarily shifted gears from winter quarter 2013 through summer quarter 2013 to work on the parallel strategic planning process, which included developing a set of institutional key performance indicators (KPIs) with baselines and benchmarks for use during the 2013-18 cycle. Our next step is to revisit, revise (as needed), and determine baselines and benchmarks for each accreditation indicator that reaches beyond the institutional KPIs.</p>	<p>This work has resulted in core themes, goals and indicators that better reflect institutional priorities and initiatives. In addition, activities have led to strong cross-campus collaboration to determine the strength of each indicator's connection back to the related core theme, and to clearly identify performance expectations for each indicator.</p>
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