What are Program-Level Standards?
In response to accreditation requirements, each for-credit program will set relevant Program-Level Standards. Rather than being aspirational objectives, these standards are similar to dashboard warning lights: If a program’s student achievement falls below one of these standards, the faculty should consider potential causes and plans for improvement.

There are a total of five Program-Level Standards. (1) Course Success Rate is the percentage of students who pass your courses with a ‘C’ grade or better. (2) Associate Degrees is the total number of degrees awarded for your program. (3) CO-Approved Certificates is the number of Chancellor’s Office-approved certificates awarded for your program. (4) Employment Rate is the employment rate for your program’s students as found in the Perkins Core Indicator Reports. (5) License Exam Pass Rate is the pass rate for a national or state exam that is required to qualify for employment.

Which Program-Level Standards Apply to My Program?
Each program will set at least one standard (Course Success Rate) and a small number of career-technical programs will set five standards. Most programs will have two or three relevant standards to set. The data in the Program-Level Standards section of your Program Plan will help with identifying which standards apply to your program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACEDD Program Data</th>
<th>For Program Standards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Success Rate</td>
<td>76.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Degrees</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CO-Approved Certificates</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment Rate</td>
<td>20.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>License Exam Pass Rate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

External Sources:
- Employment Rate: https://misweb.cccco.edu/perkins/Core_Indicator_Reports/Summ_coreIndi_TOPCode.aspx
- Website reporting pass rates for the examination appropriate to your field (if any)

NOTE:
For all categories, except Degrees and Certificates, Year 1 is 2010-11 and Year 5 is 2014-15. Because Spring 2015 Degrees and Certificates are in the process of being posted to Banner, Year 1 for these categories is 2009-10 and Year 5 is 2013-14.

What Do the Numbers in the Data Table Mean?
The numbers in the left side of the data table show your program students’ achievement over the past five years. The numbers in the right side summarize the numbers on the left side. For example, the percentages in the Course Success Rate row on the left side of the table show the success rates in your program’s courses for each of the past five years. The first two columns on the right side show the five-year average and median, respectively. (The median is the point at which half of the other scores are above and half are below.) The third and fourth columns show 90% of the average and 90% of the median, respectively. As will be explained below, these 90% figures will be helpful with setting the Program-Level Standards.
Some of the cells will hold an N/A or be blank. The “N/A” indicates that this standard is not applicable to your program (e.g., your program does not offer degrees or is not intended to lead directly to gainful employment). A blank cell in the degrees or certificates row means your program did not offer degrees or certificates at that time (e.g., a newly approved AS-T program will have blank cells before the year of its first graduate). The employment and license pass rows are initially blank for all career-technical programs. Faculty members will use external data for these standards.

**How Do We Set Program-Level Standards?**

Standards will be based on data-informed discussion among faculty. Faculty should review the data in the table provided by IRP, Perkins data and license exam results (as applicable), and trends in the community and industry. Because a standard serves as a floor rather than an objective, each standard should be set somewhat below the average or median. (This allows for some year-to-year fluctuation in student achievement results.) Many standards will be set at 90% or 95% of the average or median.

The standards created by the program should be entered into the boxes provided in the Program-Level Standard section of the planning software.

**Accessing and Using Perkins Employment Data**

1) Go to [https://misweb.cccco.edu/perkins/Core_Indicator_Reports/Core_PerformanceTrendReport_College.aspx](https://misweb.cccco.edu/perkins/Core_Indicator_Reports/Core_PerformanceTrendReport_College.aspx).

2) Use the pull-down menus to select the following . . .

   a) “Core 4 – Employment” (under Select Indicator Type),
   b) “Rio Hondo College” (under Select College Name),
c) “2015-2016” (under Select Fiscal Year), and
d) The 2-digit TOP Code for your program (under Select TOP Code).
   Note: If your program includes subjects in more than one 2-digit TOP Code, you will
   need to apply step “d” for each relevant TOP Code.
e) Finally, clink the “View Report” button.
See example below.

3) A table similar to the example below will appear. The key information is in the first line
   (Program Area Total). In the example below from Architecture and Related Technologies, there
   was a total of 31 qualifying students (12 in 2010-2011, 9 in 2011-2012, and 10 in 2012-2013 in
   the “Total” column) and 27 of those students were counted as employed (12 in 2010-2011, 5 in
   2011-2012, and 10 in 2012-2013 in the “Count” column). Dividing 27 by 31 provides an 87.1%
   employment rate. You can use this figure, in addition to those in the “Percent” column, when
determining your program-level standard for Employment Rate.

4) For some programs, it will be necessary to review employment data at the 6-digit TOP Code
   level. The navigation tabs (shown below in the example from Engineering and Industrial
   Technology) allow access to employment data for specific programs.