

Assessment, Evaluation, and Research (AER)

Assessment, Evaluation, and Research competency are essential to the overall performance in higher education. This competency uses data to assess whether policies, procedures and the overall methodologies are working or not. Data is collected in various ways, and the information is used to improve the programs and services of the university. It allows the university to see the things that they are strong in and things that it needs to improve when it comes to supporting the students' needs.

In assessing where I am with this competency area, I would say that I am at the foundational skill level. I am aware and have some working knowledge. For example, I learned in EDRS 605: Introduction to Educational Research class the difference between qualitative and quantitative research and how research works in an educational setting. For this class, I developed a qualitative research proposal on whether living learning communities would enhance or improve social and academic environments for low vision students transitioning to higher education institutions.

I look forward to expanding my knowledge and gaining a deeper understanding as to how important this competency area is to overall function of student affairs.