



## How do Institutions Use CLA+?

### STUDENTS

Career Readiness  
Critical Thinking Skills and Ability  
Problem Solving Knowledge

### TEACHERS

Impact of Curriculum  
Pedagogical Approaches  
Baseline/Growth Measure

### ADMINISTRATORS

Cross-School Comparison  
Accreditation  
Track Growth Over Time

## HELPING STUDENTS SUCCEED

**CLA+ can be used by institutions to measure and benchmark individual student learning gains.**

- A public university is administering CLA+ to all incoming freshmen and then again when students complete the core curriculum, which provides significant data about the effectiveness of the general education program for their students. The institution also uses freshmen scores to guide instruction of individual students.
- A new, test-optional institution is using CLA+ as a measure of the entering academic ability for its students and comparing against the national average. It also compares the student scores across departments to see if certain programs contribute more to CLA+ outcomes.
- A new international university is using CLA+ to establish a baseline measure that correlates with its academic mission. CLA+ is used to measure entering student skills, to help faculty understand student strengths and deficiencies, and to track growth and improvement over time.
- An English-language school in Asia is using CLA+ for individual students to measure their critical thinking and English written communication skills.

## PEER COMPARISONS

**CLA+ can be used for comparison purposes both within and across institutions.**

- A private liberal arts college is assessing all graduating seniors as part of its senior capstone courses to gauge how their students compare to others nationally.
- A less-selective university is using CLA+ sub-scores for cross-school comparisons and value-added data.
- The university reports their general education outcomes and to satisfy accreditation requirements.
- A distance-learning institution is using CLA+ to demonstrate baseline and growth measures compared to national averages.
- A public university is using CLA+ to test its students remotely and to obtain value-added data for its freshmen and seniors.
- A selective university has built CLA+ into its quality improvement plan for reaccreditation. CLA+ helps the institution understand what practices improve student learning outcomes.

## EFFICACY STUDIES

**CLA+ can be used as a standardized, unbiased instrument to measure and evaluate various programs.**

- A private university is transitioning to a new core curriculum, using CLA+ to measure freshmen to senior learning gains, evaluating the new curriculum compared to the previous one.

- A community college is using CLA+ to identify effective practices as part of their efforts to increase access, retention, and graduation rates for under-represented groups.
- A competency-based university is conducting an efficiency study of the institution's novel curriculum by testing all of its freshmen before and after participating in the program. CLA+ aligns with the institution's focus on interdisciplinary skills.

## CREDENTIALING

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### **CLA+ can be used to evaluate individual students.**

- A public university is testing all of its freshmen and seniors to gain baseline and value-added results. CLA+ outcomes align with their new strategic plan and CLA+ badges are used for credentialing. The university can better understand how individual students progress and achievement.
- A university is using CLA+ as part of a certification program to help students communicate their skills to graduate schools and employers.
- A branch of the military is using students' CLA+ scores to inform their assignment decisions for job placement.
- A community college is using CLA+ as part of a unique scholarship program. Students who qualify and perform well on CLA+ are eligible for a scholarship and admission into a local four-year university.

## SKILLS MEASURED

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- Analysis & Problem Solving
- Scientific & Quantitative Reasoning
- Critical Reading & Evaluation
- Critiquing an Argument
- Writing Effectiveness
- Writing Mechanics