

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION/AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL LIBRARIANS (ALA/AASL)

*Instructions on Completing SPA Program Review Template/Form: **Option A***

For use with: Program-level plans to meet Specialized Professional Associations (SPAs) **ALA/AASL** standards

For use by: Program Report Compilers and SPA Program Reviewers

Educator preparation providers have widely used outcome assessments aligned to standards developed by SPAs to monitor progress of candidates and evaluate programs. The purpose is to ensure that candidates are capable of applying content and pedagogical knowledge and provide evidence for CAEP [Component 1.3](#) (Initial Level Programs) or CAEP [Component A.1.2](#) (Advanced Level Programs). Programs selecting the [SPA Program Review with National Recognition Option A](#) use six to eight key assessments to provide evidence that SPA standards elements/components are met. In their entirety, the assessments and data required for submission should demonstrate the candidates have mastered the SPA standards.

Which Programs Should Submit ALA/AASL SPA Reports?

You must respond to these guidelines if the institution offers a program for the initial preparation of school librarians (a.k.a. library media specialists, teacher librarians, library information specialists, media coordinators) at the Master's level. National recognition can only be conferred on Master's degree level programs. If the library program is accredited by ALA/AASL you do not need to submit a report unless a report is required for state accreditation.

How to Complete the Program Report Template/Form

SPA Program Review is conducted through CAEP's Accreditation Information Management System ([AIMS](#)). A program would request a template ("shell") through AIMS using institutional login information. Instructions on how to request shells are provided on the CAEP [website](#).

COVER SHEET

(Must be completed for initial, revised, and response-to-conditions reports)
Complete the entire section: Numbers 1-16.

**Question 16. State Licensure requirement for national recognition:*

ALA/AASL, in alignment with CAEP policy, does not require an 80% pass rate for the program completer cohorts reported taking the state licensure examination(s) in the content field. However, the last three years of candidate performance data on the licensure examination(s) must be reported in Section IV of the SPA report template as evidence for Assessment 1 in initial review reports. Identify whether your state requires such a test.

- Yes
- No

SECTION I. CONTEXT

Provide general information on the program as specified by the directions for this section. Each question that requires a narrative has a specific character limit. There is one attachment.

Note that the table for Candidate Information (question #5) is filled out online. This information must be provided for initial, revised, and response-to-conditions reports.

The Faculty Information (question #6) is provided during initial review. It includes all faculty in the AIMS Manage Faculty Information view. Pertinent faculty information is then imported into each program report.

SECTION II. LIST OF ASSESSMENTS

Using the chart included in this report form, indicate the name, type, and administration point for each of the 6-8 assessments documented in this report. (Note that Section IV of the report form lists examples of assessments that may be appropriate for each type of assessment that must be documented in the program report.)

SECTION III. RELATIONSHIP OF ASSESSMENTS TO STANDARDS

Using the chart included in this report form, indicate which of the assessments listed in Section II provide evidence of meeting specific program standards elements.

**When submitting a revised or response-to-conditions report, if a new assessment replaces one submitted in the initial review report to meet a SPA standard, Section III must be completed.*

SECTION IV. EVIDENCE FOR MEETING STANDARDS

Follow the directions provided in Section IV of the template to develop information on the 6-8 key assessments. The key assessments should be required of all candidates. Assessments scoring guides/rubrics and data charts should be aligned with the SPA standards elements/components. This means that the concepts in the SPA standards should be apparent in the assessments and in the scoring guides/rubrics to the same depth, breadth, and specificity as in the SPA standards. Data tables should also be aligned with the SPA standards elements/components. The data should be presented, in general, at the same level they are collected. For example, if a rubric collects data on 10 elements/components [each relating to specific SPA standard(s) indicators], then the data chart should report the data on each of the elements rather than reporting a cumulative score.

For each assessment, attach one document that includes (1) a two-page narrative and (2) assessment documentation. The narrative includes the following:

- a. A brief description of the assessment and its use in the program (one sentence may be sufficient);
- b. A description of how this assessment specifically aligns with the standards it is cited for in Section III. Cite SPA standards by number, title, and/or standard wording.
- c. A brief analysis of the data findings; and
- d. An interpretation of how that data provides evidence for meeting standards, indicating the specific SPA standards by number, title, and/or standard wording;
- e. The assessment documentation will include the following:

- f. The assessment tool itself or a rich description of the assessment (often the directions given to candidates);
- g. The scoring guide for the assessment; and
- h. Charts that provide candidate data derived from the assessment.

Note:

- a. One assessment is preferably presented as one file;
- b. There is a limit of 20 attachments
- c. Attachment size can be no larger than 2 MB

SECTION V. USE OF ASSESSMENT RESULTS TO IMPROVE THE PROGRAM

Describe how faculty are using the data from assessments to improve candidate performance and the program, as it relates to content knowledge; pedagogical and professional knowledge, skills, and dispositions; and student learning.

****SECTION VI. FOR REVISED AND RESPONSE-TO-CONDITIONS REPORTS ONLY***

Describe what changes or additions have been made in the report to address the conditions and concerns raised in the original recognition report. List the sections of the report you are resubmitting and the changes that have been made.

Specific instructions for preparing a Revised report are available on the CAEP web site at

<http://www.caepnet.org/accreditation/caep-accreditation/spa-program-review-policies-and-procedur/guidelines-for-submitting-revised-spa-pr>

Specific instructions for preparing a Response to Conditions report are available on the CAEP web site at

<http://www.caepnet.org/accreditation/caep-accreditation/spa-program-review-policies-and-procedur/guidelines-for-submitting-response-to-co>

General Guidelines on Documentation

1. Attachments

Sections I and IV include attachments. In Section IV, each attachment should be no longer than the equivalent of seventeen text pages. A program report can include no more than a total of 20 attachments. A single attachment cannot be larger than 2 MB. The files for each attachment should be prepared as Word, Word Perfect, Excel, or PDF documents. AIMS accepts documents that have been created in the newest version of Word and saved with a “.docx” extension.

2. Character Limits

Character limits have been set based on one page being equivalent to 4000 characters. Character counts include spaces, punctuation, numbers, etc.

3. Formatting Instructions

Note that text boxes in Sections I, II, V, and VI are html-based and will not accept any formatting such as bullets, tables, charts, etc. Be sure that your responses are text-only. If you do need to include a table or a graph in a response to a question, then you must separate that into a unique file and attach in Section I. This restriction does not apply to the documentation for Section IV, since these documents are all uploaded as

attachments.

NOTE: CAEP staff may require programs to revise reports that are not aligned with the template instructions regarding format, page limits, or number of attachments. Please note that hyperlinks embedded in report documentation will not be read by reviewers and cannot be used as a means of providing additional information.

Resources on the CAEP website

CAEP has multiple resources on its website to help programs to prepare SPA reports. These are available at <http://www.caepnet.org/accreditation/caep-accreditation/spa-program-review-policies-and-procedur>

SPA-specific program review templates and resources are available at <http://www.caepnet.org/accreditation/caep-accreditation/spa-standards-and-report-forms>

Specific Guidelines for ALA/AASL Review

National Recognition Decision Rules

Additional Assessment Types (beyond the first 5 required types) required by ALA/AASL:

School librarianship preparation programs are measured at the standard level. To achieve the status of Nationally Recognized or Nationally Recognized with Conditions, a program must meet all five standards. Each standard must be met in at least one assessment. A standard is met by a preponderance of evidence drawn from the elements. AASL requires that elements under each standard are generally addressed, but does not require that a specific number of elements must be met to determine that the standard as a whole is met. Reviewers look at the standard as a whole and make a professional judgment as to whether the program meets the overall intent of the standard.

Review teams may elect to make one of the following decisions regarding programs: National Recognition, National Recognition with Conditions, or Further development required/Nationally recognized with probation/Not nationally recognized.

Preponderance of evidence for each category is as follows:

- **Nationally Recognized**
All five standards were met and sufficient evidence was provided to demonstrate that candidates have developed a basic understanding and mastery of key concepts within each standard.
- **Nationally Recognized with Conditions**
All five standards have been met but some assessments fail to provide sufficient content and detail necessary to demonstrate that candidates have developed a basic understanding and mastery of key concepts within each standard.
- **Further development required/Nationally recognized with probation/Not**

nationally recognized

All five standards were not met and sufficient evidence was not provided to demonstrate that candidates have developed a basic understanding and mastery of key concepts within each standard.

Additional Assessment Types (beyond the first 5 required types) required by

ALA/AASL:

ALA/AASL requires a sixth assessment, but that assessment type is up to the program.

Will ALA/AASL Accept Grades as One of the Assessments?

While all SPAs will accept course grades as one of the 6 to 8 key assessments, programs choosing to submit course grades to demonstrate content mastery must strictly adhere to CAEP's Grade Policy located at <http://www.caepnet.org/accreditation/caep-accreditation/program-review-options/grade-policy>. Preferred assessments used to provide evidence of content mastery are a comprehensive portfolio or other assessments that span multiple standards and provide a deep level of evidence.

CAEP's Program Review Resources can be found at

<http://www.caepnet.org/accreditation/caep-accreditation/spa-program-review-policies-and-procedur>

Other resources are available on the ALA/AASL website at

<http://www.ala.org/aasl/about/caep>