

Conditions of Excellence in Academic Advising

**I The Power to Transform Higher Education Through Excellence in Academic Advising**



NACADA: The Global Community for Academic Advising is joining with the John N. Gardner Institute to advance student success, persistence, retention, and degree completion through a comprehensive, standards-based assessment process to promote excellence in academic advising. This partnership brings together the national and global academic advising expertise of NACADA with the Gardner Institute's 18 years of experience in guiding institutions through evidence-based decision-making, planning, and implementation to effect positive change in the student experience.

NACADA and the Gardner Institute--along with an inaugural cohort of institutions--will refine, validate, and establish the aspirational standards for colleges and universities to evaluate and improve academic advising. These standards, or "Conditions of Excellence in Academic Advising," acknowledge the role of academic advising in promoting student learning, success, and completion as well as the complexity of higher education and organizational change. Thus, this process invites institutions to examine academic advising through multiple institutional lenses.

**I Conditions of Excellence Project Process**

Institutions selected to be part of the inaugural cohort will engage in a two-year campus-wide initiative using NACADA's nine "Conditions of Excellence in Academic Advising" as the drivers for discussion and evidence gathering. These Conditions will guide the reflective self-study and strategic assessment of academic advising. This process draws on the academic advising audit experience of NACADA and is enriched by the Gardner Institute's success in guiding institutions toward systemic change and improvement in the student experience. The Conditions of Excellence process includes formal consultants' reviews and guidance throughout the two-year process to support the development of an evidence-based set of prioritized institutional recommendations for change as well as support for plan implementation.

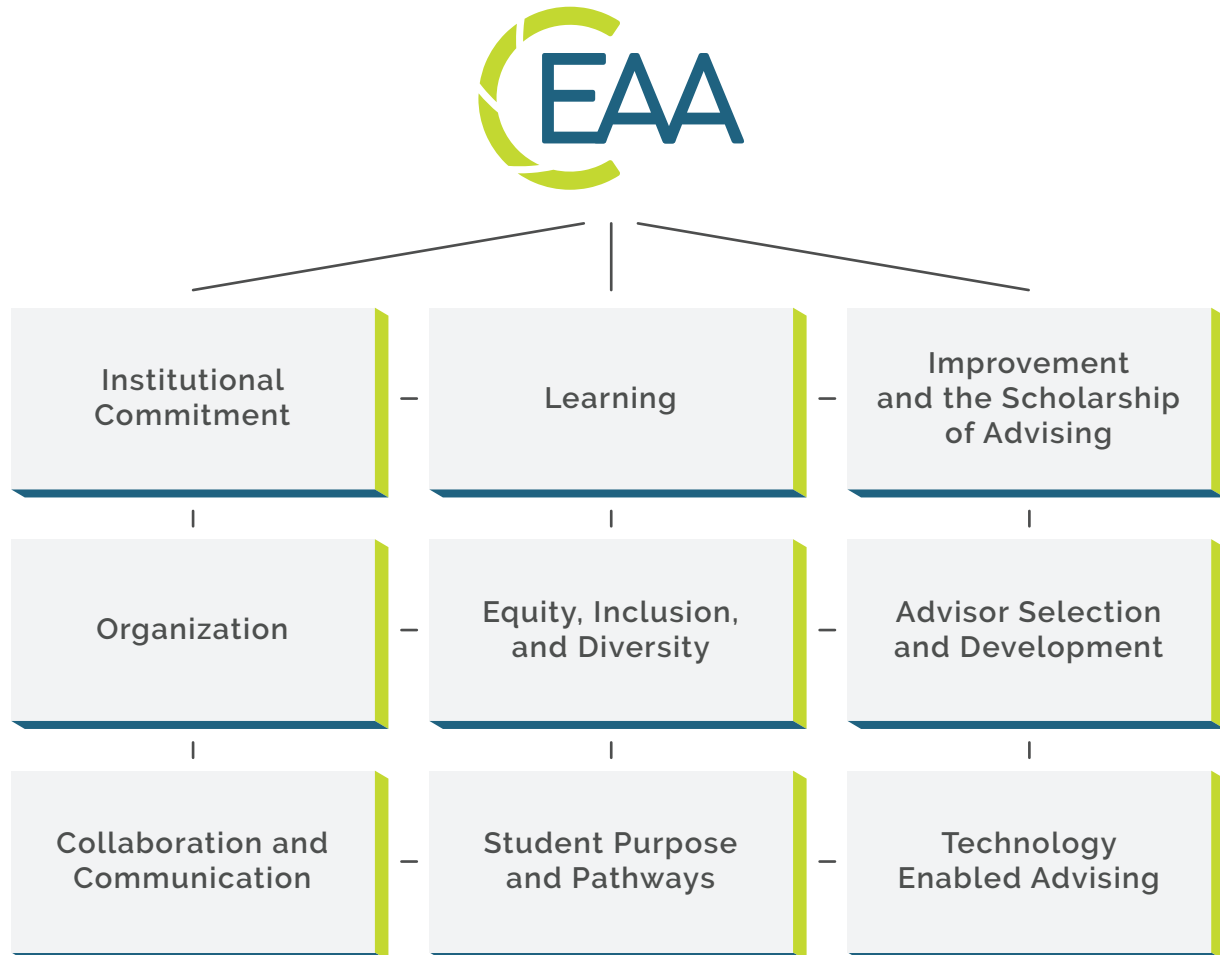
**I During Year 1 (Action Plan Development)**

Institutions will conduct a comprehensive self-study in which they gather and analyze data as well as other forms of evidence, and engage in campus-wide discussions. Through this collaborative process, institutions identify a set of recommendations using the findings from the self-study as signposts for change.

**I During Year 2 (Action Plan Implementation)**

Institutions will then initiate strategies to act upon the findings and recommendations, ensuring alignment with institutional priorities for the student experience.

Conditions of Excellence in Academic Advising



Excellence in Academic Advising is demonstrated by evidence of student and program success through:

- Academic advising mission and goal statements that align advising with the institution's mission and strategic goals
- A comprehensive, collaboratively developed academic advising delivery system that is responsive to student needs and designed for their benefit
- Personal and professional ethics manifested throughout the academic advising process.
- Evidence-based decision making and assessment that guide improvement of initiatives, including the use of technology in academic advising