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This step-by-step guide provides the most current practices for developing assessment programs on college and university campuses. Assessment Essentials outlines the assessment process from the first to the last step and is filled with illustrative examples to show how assessment is accomplished on today's academic campuses. It is especially useful for faculty members and others who may be new to the assessment process. In clear, accessible language, Palomba and Banta describe effective assessment programs and offer a thorough review of the most up-to-date practices in the field.

Each chapter of the book addresses a specific aspect of assessment and is designed to walk users through various steps of the assessment process. This comprehensive resource shows how to: Develop plans and goals that are right for the needs of an individual campus; encourage involvement and support from students, faculty, alumni, and employees; select useful methods and approaches; use the most advantageous performance measures; develop tests and classroom assignments; choose appropriate surveys and focus groups; accurately assess general education, campus environments, and student experiences; effectively analyze, report, and use the assessment results.