

10-Year Open Pathway Cycle

For Institutions Completing a Mid-cycle Assurance Review



Years 1–3 (2025-2027)

Prepare Assurance Filing

Institution

Collect evidence and write Assurance Argument for mid-cycle [Assurance Review](#). Will gain access to Assurance Filing in Canopy in Year 2.



Year 4 (2028)

Assurance Review

Institution

Submit [Assurance Filing](#) (Assurance Argument and Evidence File).

Peer Review

Conduct Assurance Review (typically no visit).

HLC Decision Making

Acceptance of or action on Assurance Review.



Years 5–7 (2029-2031)

Open Quality Initiative Proposal

Institution

Submit [Open Quality Initiative Proposal](#) and begin implementation. May also begin preparing Assurance Filing for Year 10 [comprehensive evaluation](#) (will gain access to Assurance Filing in Canopy in Year 8).

Peer Review

Review Open Quality Initiative Proposal.



Years 7–9 (2031-2033)

Open Quality Initiative Report

Institution

Submit [Open Quality Initiative Report](#). May also continue preparing Assuring Filing for Year 10 [comprehensive evaluation](#) (will gain access to Assurance Filing in Canopy in Year 8).

Peer Review

Review Open Quality Initiative Report.



Year 10 (2034)

Comprehensive Evaluation for Reaffirmation

Institution

Submit [comprehensive evaluation](#) materials.

Peer Review

Conduct comprehensive evaluation (with [visit](#)).

HLC Decision Making

Take action on comprehensive evaluation, Reaffirmation of Accreditation and determine [pathway eligibility](#).