

What is CAR?

- College Area Review (CAR) is a comprehensive self evaluative process of all academic areas and administrative units.
- The goal of CAR is to provide critical college wide information for strategic planning, assist in establishing priorities for resource allocation, and measure overall institutional effectiveness.
- CAR is assigned to the Vice President for Planning and Institutional Effectiveness who is the lead administrator for all assessment activity at the College, which includes both College Area Review and Outcomes Assessment.

What is the impact of CAR at Montgomery College? CAR helps measure the College's institutional effectiveness by:

- Involving all College stakeholders; administrators, vice presidents, unit managers, unit directors, deans, faculty, staff and students.
- Providing relevant and standard data to all disciplines which include: student enrollment measures, credit hours, program enrollments, awards and retention rates, summarized program transfer data, student faculty ratios, and full time to part time faculty ratios.
- Operating on a five year cycle, reviewing on an average fifteen academic units (includes courses, program(s) and discipline) per academic year and three administrative units per calendar year.
- Informing administrative units and academic areas of their budgetary priorities and assessing reallocation needs; helping to inform the unit's strategic plans.
- Approving final recommendations from both the administrative units and the academic areas are monitored until implementation. Recommendation updates are requested each year and disciplines and administrative units have up to five years for recommendation implementation.
- Soliciting yearly feedback from all stakeholders and making yearly modifications to improve the CAR process, better adapting to the user's needs.
- Having a standing committee, College Area Review Committee (CARC) that oversees and helps to administer the process; serving as a cross sectional review team composed of representatives inclusive of all College stakeholders.
- Having final review and approval by the executive team, consisting of Senior Vice Presidents and the President of the College.

What are the next steps for CAR?

- Better and more seamless integration with other institutional effectiveness processes.