E-PROFICIENCY PROFILE (EPP) CUSTOM COMPARATIVE DATA REPORT OVERVIEW

The Custom Comparative Data Report can assist you in interpreting the scores from Proficiency Profile by helping you determine how your students' skills compare with the skills of students at similar institutions. The report generates descriptive statistics based on a reference group of 10 or more other institutions of interest which you select. Information about an institution gathered through E-Proficiency Profile administrations cannot be released in any form attributable to or identifiable with an individual institution. The anonymity of each institution's performance is maintained by reporting only the aggregate performance of the selected reference group.

Below are descriptions of the various tables you can generate using this service:

- **Distribution of Individual Students' Total Scores/Subscores** - The distributions in these tables may be used to interpret individual student results by determining what percent of those taking the test at the selected institutions attained scores below that of a particular student. Each table shows scaled score intervals for **Total Score** and **Subscores** separately. By looking up the Total Score or Subscore and reading across the row to the corresponding number in the column headed "Percent Below," the percent of individuals scoring below any interval can be determined.

- **Distribution of Institutional Mean Total Scores/Subscores** - The distributions in these tables present the number of institutions at each mean score level. These tables provide a way to compare the Total Score and Subscore means for your **institution** with those of other participating **institutions** you selected. These tables show the mean of means (or the average of the mean scores for those institutions selected) as well as the standard deviations of those mean.

- **Summary of Proficiency Classifications** - This table presents the percentage of students classified in each criterion- referenced Proficiency Classification - **Proficient, Not Proficient**, and **Marginally Proficient** - within each Proficiency Level - Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 - in each skill dimension (Reading/Critical Thinking, Writing, and Mathematics) for the selected institutions.

The following considerations should be kept in mind when interpreting comparative data:

- This data should be considered comparative rather than normative because the institutions included in the data do not represent proportionally the various types of higher education institutions. The data are drawn entirely from institutions that choose to use E-Proficiency Profile. Such a self-selected sample may not be representative of all institutions.

- The number of students tested and sampling procedures vary from one institution to another. Therefore, it is impossible to verify that the students tested at each institution are representative of all that institution's students in that program.

- It is helpful when these comparisons involve students at approximately the same point in their educational careers. The report allows you to filter on students having attained a certain number of credit hours (e.g. Entering Freshmen, Sophomores, etc.). Students who have not identified their credit status are excluded from these calculations.

- The tables report data for institutions that have tested 30 or more students at the selected class level or number of credit hours attained. Institutions with fewer than 30 test takers at that class level are excluded from these calculations.

- In certain circumstances, the score distribution used to compute these statistics will be modified to prevent the statistics from being dominated by a few very large institutions. If an institution contributes a large number of students to a data set, the score of each of its students will be weighted. If weighting is applied to the report, a footnote explaining the weighting process will appear below the table. Weighting is only applied to reports based on individual student results.