

# Data Governance Resource Collection

This resource collection offers an overview of core data culture and governance principles and practices upon which data culture relies. Rather than being prescriptive, the intent is to present resources that can be browsed and selected according to the unique needs of a particular institution.

## Data Culture & Governance

### [The Data Culture Framework: Infusing Data Throughout the Campus Culture](#)

*Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities*

A high-level guide designed for institutional leaders aiming to create and sustain an effective data culture on campus. The framework emphasizes the importance of reliable, accurate, and accessible data to support data-informed decision-making that enhances student success. The document outlines key components necessary for an effective data culture, including leadership and organizational values, stakeholder engagement, assessment of the data culture, data management and governance, data quality, reliable tools, data literacy, and a community of practice.

### [Understanding and Developing a Data-Informed Culture](#)

*EDUCAUSE*

A comprehensive guide aimed at fostering a data-informed culture within higher education institutions. It is structured into several key sections, each addressing critical aspects of developing and sustaining a data-informed environment. The document also delves into the principles of data governance and data access, highlighting the need for collaboration between business units and IT, intentional communication, and clearly defined roles and responsibilities.

### [MedBiquitous Data Governance Overview](#)

*Michael Vavlitis, PMP*

Provides a comprehensive overview of data governance principles and practices, specifically tailored for higher education institutions. It defines data governance as the exercise of decision-making and authority for data-related matters, emphasizing the importance of integrity, validity, and reliability in data management.

## Data Governance Planning Materials

### [2023 Horizon Action Plan: Data Governance](#)

*EDUCAUSE*

A strategic guide to address the evolving landscape of data governance in higher education that outlines a comprehensive action plan aimed at modernizing and optimizing data governance policies and practices. The document emphasizes the importance of fostering a supportive data culture, ensuring equitable access to data, and integrating data governance into institutional strategic plans. Additionally, it includes activities and methodologies for planning and implementing data governance strategies.

### [Healthcare Data Governance](#)

*American Health Information Management Association*

This Practice Brief outlines the healthcare data governance structure/framework, guiding principles, organization-wide applications, and best practices/recommendations surrounding healthcare data. Touches on data governance elements including people, processes, and systems used to manage data throughout the data lifecycle.

### [The Data Maturity Index \(DMI\)](#)

*Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities*

The Data Maturity Index (DMI) measures an institution's ability to leverage data to produce insights that inform strategic initiatives and support student success. It includes guiding questions to assess various aspects of data governance, such as the presence of a data governance structure, data-informed culture, data collection and management practices, data quality maintenance, and the effectiveness of data dissemination.

### [Data Management Maturity \(DMM\) Model](#)

*CMMI Institute*

The Data Management Maturity (DMM) Model outlines best practices for building, enhancing, and measuring data management processes, ensuring that data is timely, accurate, and accessible across the organization. It includes a clear pathway to performance improvement, modular training components, and an assessment method to understand the current state and provide a roadmap for improvement.

### [Data Governance Checklist](#)

*US Department of Education*

The Data Governance Checklist provided by the U.S. Department of Education's Privacy Technical Assistance Center (PTAC), assists educational stakeholders in establishing and maintaining a successful data governance program. It covers key components such as decision-making authority, data privacy, security practices, and compliance monitoring. The checklist is designed for K-12 data systems but is highly adaptable for health sciences institutions.

## Additional Resources

An Y, Yu JH, James S. Investigating higher education institutions' guidelines and policies regarding the use of generative AI in teaching, learning, research, and administration. *Int J Educ Technol High Educ* 22, 10 (2025). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s41239-025-00507-3>.

Emmanouil P, Mikalef P, Conboy K. Responsible artificial intelligence governance: A review and research framework. *JSIS* 34, 2 (2025). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jsis.2024.101885>.

Langer B. Understanding data & analytics maturity: a systematic review of maturity model composition. *Schmalenbach J Bus Res*; 2025. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s41471-024-00205-2>.

Tran M, Balasooriya C, Jonnagaddala J, Leung GK, Mahboobani N, Ramani S, et al. Situating governance and regulatory concerns for generative artificial intelligence and large language models in medical education. *npj Digit. Med.* 8, 315 (2025). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41746-025-01721-z>.

US Department of Labor. Data governance playbook. Washington D.C.: US Department of Labor; 2020. <https://resources.data.gov/assets/documents/fds-data-governance-playbook.pdf>

Wu C, Zhang H, Carroll JM. AI governance in higher education: case studies of guidance at big ten universities. *Future Internet.* 2024;16:354. <https://doi.org/10.3390/fi16100354>.

## Glossary

Data Governance – APLU definitions:

“The organizational structure that manages data for the institution. It ensures that data has integrity, validity, and reliability from collection to reporting to interpretation. It is led by a governing body that monitors and guides processes for collection, strategies for maintaining quality, acceptable practices to secure and store data, protocols for accessing data, methods of dissemination, and training on how to use the data.”

“The structure, policies, and practices at an institution that support an evidence-based culture, where data are treated like a vital resource to support priorities, strategies, and operations. It is a collaboration across the campus including the executive leadership, student advising, academic leaders, faculty, staff, IR, IT, legal, and budget resources.”

## Authors

**Michael Vavlitis, PMP**, University of North Carolina School of Medicine IT

**Leslie Wimsatt, PhD, FNAOME**, Des Moines University College of Medicine

**Lori DeShetler, PhD**, The University of Toledo, College of Medicine and Life Sciences