# **Integration Maturity Self Test**

### Grading Key

Please indicate **how well** each statement describes your institution.

Not at all Poorly Somewhat Fairly well Well

Enterprise Value Prioritization

Total Cost Awareness Asset Management

Enterprise Data Definitions Master Data Management

Our institution invests IT resources in scalable technologies, with a focus on long-term flexibility over near-term demands.

Score:\_\_\_\_\_

During the procurement process, our institution ensures that all vendors' technical standards (e.g., platforms, protocols, etc.) are leveraged and can be supported on campus.

Score:\_\_\_\_

Institutional leadership has a shared understanding of our collective "technical debt" and the costs associated with IT's integration maintenance efforts.

Score:\_\_\_\_\_

We have clear IT protocols regarding integration total cost analysis which are well understood and uniformly applied to incoming projects.

Score:\_\_\_\_\_

Our institution has a clear and documented roadmap to transform outdated legacy infrastructure to meet modern IT needs.

Score:\_\_\_\_\_

IT maintains a robust and up-to-date inventory of all integration assets including tools, platforms, and interfaces.

Score:\_\_\_\_\_

The institution has a formal data strategy which articulates the steps to be taken to better leverage data, and names those responsible for executing those steps.

Score:\_\_\_\_\_

We create and regularly update clear, institution-wide definitions for commonly used terms (e.g., "student") in a location easily accessible to all stakeholders.

Score:\_\_\_\_\_

Principled master data designations and associated metadata are agreed upon among campus stakeholders and then effectively communicated to users.

Score:\_\_\_\_

We actively monitor for anomalous data in master data systems and take steps to identify and remediate the underlying causes.

Score:\_\_\_\_\_

Subtotal:



Subtotal:



Subtotal:



Subtotal:



Subtotal:



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Staff Organization Service Delivery Standardization and Automation Scalable Architecture Competency Development

Our IT department organizes integration staff as an integration service, rather than assigning them to system-specific teams.

Score:\_\_\_\_\_

The developers who work on integrations focus exclusively on integration efforts and are not responsible for other kinds of development.

Score:\_\_\_\_\_

Integration work is a discrete and differentiated service provided to consumer groups internal to IT, across campus, and external to the organization.

Score:\_\_\_\_\_

Integration consumers and developers have clear lines of communication regarding service agreements and expectations.

Score:\_\_\_\_\_

Integration staff use a common toolset with established patterns to develop new interfaces for campus systems.

Score:

Our integration tools promote workflow automation, minimal coding, and reduction of rework.

Score:\_\_\_\_

IT leverages enterprise architecture expertise at the business, application, and technical levels to guide technology solution decisions.

Score:\_\_\_\_\_

IT professionals and campus leadership have a common goal of supporting cross-campus capabilities with shared assets and applications.

Score:\_\_\_\_

Integration developers are encouraged, and supported, to deepen their knowledge of available tools and propose adoption of new technologies.

Score:\_\_\_\_

IT staff (and distributed partners) work closely with campus constituents to increase the technical sophistication of integration practices across the institution.

Score:\_\_\_\_\_

Subtotal:

Subtotal:

Subtotal:

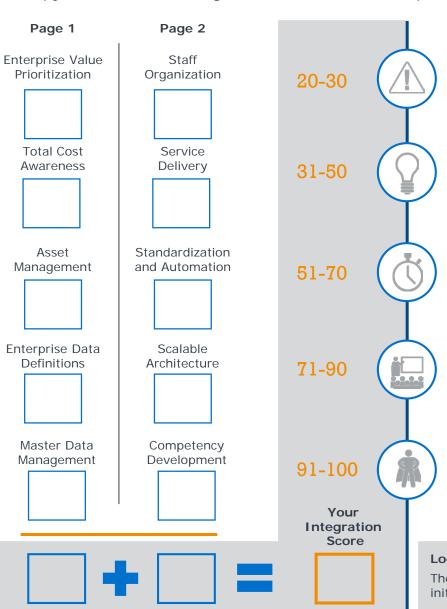
Subtotal:

Subtotal:



## **Integration Maturity Self Test**

Copy Numbers From Pages 1-2 Below and Add Up to Discover Your Integration Maturity Score



#### Feeling the Ad-Hoc Burden

Your IT staff are running from project to project, repeating bespoke integration efforts for each new build. Integration developers are working round the clock with the tools they have, but the maintenance costs are creeping up. Keeping the lights on is getting costly, and people are probably losing faith in IT.

### Aspiring to Change

You're turning the tides. Maybe you're evangelizing about "technical debt" – and leadership might even be starting to listen. But IT infrastructure remains a low priority, so your IT organization's attempts to reduce costs and rework with informal standards are crucial for breathing space.

#### **Transformation Coming into Focus**

You've targeted an end state, and institutional leaders are invested in progress. Clear ownership for integration and enterprise initiatives means that policies and procedures are documented and shared with campus, and new investments are geared towards developing the technical architecture and digital capabilities.

### Pushing Your Platform

When it comes to enterprise integration, you're ahead of the curve. Centralized developers are leveraging minimal-code solutions to manage institutional data in motion, and campus units are enfranchised to central solutions. The data foundation is stable, the integration processes streamlined, and the connectivity expanding.

### Digital Native

Your IT spending is high, but for all the right reasons. A flexible architecture enables fast-paced migration between technologies, and seamless access to institutional data drives efficiency and creativity. Integrators are everywhere, and data-driven innovation is intuitive.

#### Looking to Improve?

The IT Forum has a library of best-practice research to support data and integration initiatives. Talk to one of our researchers about the services we provide.