

STEPS Interpretation Standards

INT Standard 1 – The institution is a good steward of its resources held in the public trust.

INT Standard 2 – The institution is committed to public accountability and is transparent in its mission and its operations.

INT Standard 3 – The institution's culture, policies, and procedures are inclusive and equitable.

INT Standard 4 – The composition, qualifications, and diversity of the institution's leadership, staff, and volunteers enable it to carry out the institution's mission and goals.

INT Standard 5 – The governing authority, staff, and volunteers legally, ethically, and effectively carry out their responsibilities.

INT Standard 6 – The institution asserts its public service role and places education at the center of that role.

INT Standard 7 – The institution clearly states its overall educational goals, values, philosophy, and messages, and demonstrates that its activities are in alignment with them.

INT Standard 8 – The institution understands the characteristics and needs of its existing and potential audiences and uses this understanding to inform its interpretation.

INT Standard 9 – The institution's interpretive content is based on appropriate research, which is conducted according to scholarly standards.

INT Standard 10 – The institution uses techniques and methods that are accurate and appropriate to its interpretive and/or educational goals, content, audiences, and resources.

INT Standard 11 – The institution demonstrates consistent high quality in its interpretive activities.

INT Standard 12 – The institution assesses the effectiveness of its interpretive activities and uses those results to plan and improve its activities.

INT Standard 13 – The institution is aware of issues associated with environmental sustainability and takes steps to conserve resources and protect the environment at the level appropriate for its capacity.

INT Standard 14 – The institution is aware that current and innovative technologies can help further its mission, and it employs technology at the level appropriate for its needs and responsibilities.