

Systemwide Technology Inventory and Alignment Review

From institutional inventories to systemwide coordination opportunities

This tool helps system leaders document the technologies used across institutions and identify opportunities for greater systemwide coordination. The inventory can reveal where institutions already use the same or compatible technologies – creating opportunities for group pricing, coordinated procurement, shared administration or support, or a common platform – and where institutions use substantially different technologies that may require more extensive analysis, investment, process changes, or transition planning. The purpose is not to assume every technology should be standardized, but to determine where coordination may provide value and where integration may be more challenging.

01 How to Use this Rubric

- For each institution in the system, enter the vendor, product, or platform it currently uses in each technology area. After completing the tables, system staff should review the results to:
- › Identify technology already used by multiple institutions.

› Determine whether administration, technical support, or specialized expertise could be shared.

› Identify technologies that could potentially transition to a common systemwide platform.

› Flag differences in technologies, contracts, integrations, or institutional requirements that may make coordination difficult.

› Prioritize areas for more detailed financial, technical, and operational analysis.

The results should be treated as an initial screening tool. Before pursuing a shared platform or service, leaders should also evaluate functionality, institutional requirements, contract timing, migration and implementation costs, interoperability, cybersecurity, and change management needs.

02 Complete the Inventory Tables

Table 1. Academic Systems

Institution Name	Learning Management Systems (LMS)	Advising Technology	Library Research Platforms

Systemwide Observations:

Table 2. Administrative Systems

Institution Name	Student Information Systems (SIS)	Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)	Customer Relations Management (CRM)
Systemwide Observations:			

Table 3. Infrastructure and Support

Institution Name	IT Network	Identity and Access Management	Campus Safety
Systemwide Observations:			

03 Next Steps

For each technology, system staff should consider:

- › How many institutions use the same platform?

› Are the platforms compatible or interoperable?

› Are contract renewal dates sufficiently aligned to support joint procurement?

› Is there an opportunity for group pricing or coordinated negotiation?
- › Could administration or technical support be shared without changing platforms?

› Would adopting a common platform create meaningful financial, operational, or student benefit?

› What factors could make coordination or conversion difficult?

04 Interpreting the Results

Inventory Finding	Potential Implication
Most institutions use the same platform	Consider group pricing, coordinated contracting, shared administration, or shared support.
Several institutions use the same platform	Explore a purchasing consortium, phased alignment, or expanded participation in the most commonly used platform.
Institutions use different but compatible platforms	Consider common standards, shared integrations, data exchange, or coordinated support instead of full standardization.
Institutions use substantially different platforms	Assess whether the benefits of alignment justify migration, integration, and change-management costs.
Platforms are highly customized or embedded in institutional processes	Conduct deeper technical and operational analysis before considering and shared platform.
Contract renewal dates vary substantially	Consider phased procurement or align future renewal cycles before attempting systemwide conversion.