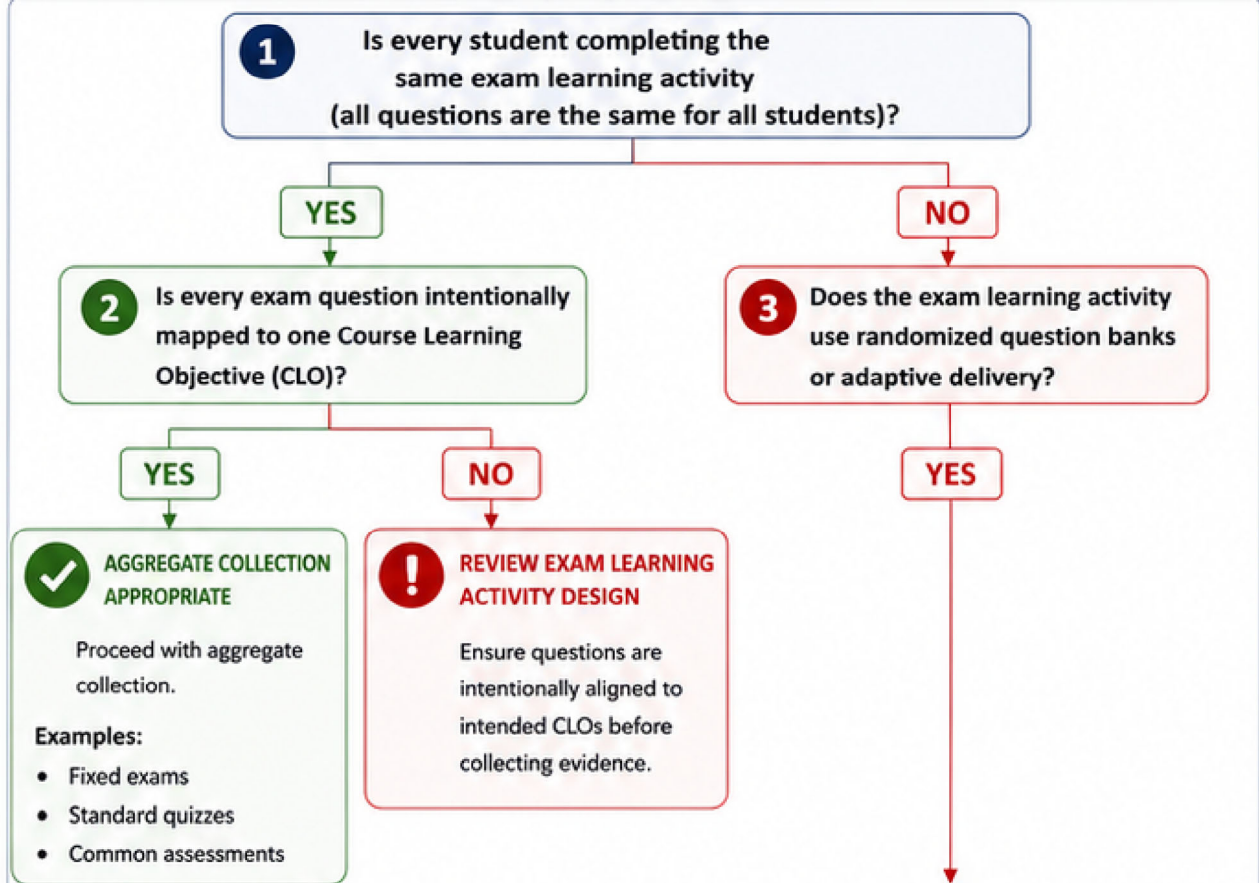


ALIGNIFY™ EXAM LEARNING ACTIVITY COLLECTION DECISION TREE

Selecting the Right Evidence Collection Strategy Based on Exam Design

STEP 1: START HERE



STEP 2: CHOOSE AN EVIDENCE COLLECTION STRATEGY

STRATEGY A (RECOMMENDED)

EXAM QUESTION SAMPLING (Best Practice)

Designate a subset of exam questions as "Assessment Questions".

- Every Assessment Question is intentionally mapped to one CLO.
- Every student receives the Assessment Questions.
- Remaining questions support grading, practice, or exam security.

Advantages:

- Aggregate collection remains possible
- Minimal faculty workload
- Strong longitudinal consistency
- Recommended by Alignify™

STRATEGY B

STANDARDIZED QUESTION POOLS

Ensure every randomized version contains the same CLO distribution.

Example:

- Every student receives:
 - 5 CLO 1 questions
 - 5 CLO 2 questions
 - 5 CLO 3 questions
 - ...

Advantages:

- Aggregate collection remains possible
- Maintains blueprint consistency

Limitation:

- Requires careful exam blueprint design.

STRATEGY C

STUDENT-LEVEL COLLECTION

Collect results for every student and every exam question.

Recommended when:

- High-stakes exams
- Licensure preparation
- Program evaluation
- Advanced analytics

Advantages:

- Highest level of evidence and precision

Limitations:

- Significant data volume
- Requires LMS export or manual collection

STRATEGY D

LMS QUESTION STATISTICS

Use LMS-generated question-level statistics.

Example:

- Moodle, Canvas, Blackboard
- Question statistics are aggregated by question.
- Questions are mapped to CLOs.

Advantages:

- Lower faculty workload
- Aggregated data
- Ideal when LMS exports are available

Limitation:

- Depends on LMS reporting capabilities.

REMEMBER: The goal is to produce valid, reliable, and interpretable evidence of student learning while minimizing unnecessary faculty workload.

ALIGNIFY™ BEST PRACTICES



BEST PRACTICE: EXAM QUESTION SAMPLING

Intentional sampling of exam questions provides strong, reliable evidence while keeping faculty workload manageable.

Key Benefits:

- Ensures valid CLO evidence
- Supports meaningful longitudinal analysis
- Reduces manual data collection burden
- Works with randomized question banks
- Scales across courses and programs



KEY PRINCIPLES

- Each exam question should align to one primary CLO.
- Rubric criteria should measure the intended CLO—not secondary aspects (e.g., grammar) unless those are the outcome.
- The Assessment Component is the smallest unit of evidence analysis (e.g., exam question).
- Choose the evidence collection method that best fits your exam design and resources.



WHEN IN DOUBT

If you are unsure which strategy to use, consider:

- The purpose of the exam
- The stakes of the results
- The availability of LMS data
- The level of analysis required

Document your decision in the Assessment Workbook under "Evidence Collection Method" and explain your rationale.



IMPACT ON THE WORKBOOK & ALIGNIFY™

Your evidence collection choice affects:

- How data is entered or imported
- The level of analysis possible
- Longitudinal reporting
- Platform configuration

The Alignify™ Platform will support all four strategies and automate CLO roll-up where LMS data is available.

GLOSSARY



EXAM LEARNING ACTIVITY

A structured assessment (quiz, midterm, final, etc.) used to generate evidence about student learning.



EXAM QUESTION

A specific question within an exam learning activity used to assess one or more learning objectives.



ASSESSMENT COMPONENT

The smallest unit of analysis in the assessment system (e.g., exam question, rubric criterion, discussion post).



AGGREGATE DATA

Results summarized across all students (e.g., average score, % correct).



STUDENT-LEVEL DATA

Results at the individual student level for deeper analysis.

NOTE: This decision guide supports the Alignify™ Assessment Methodology and should be used in conjunction with institutional policies, course assessment plans, and applicable accreditation requirements.