

Commitment Level Assessment Instructions

Purpose

This assessment is designed to establish a clear foundation for community-wide improvement. It focuses on bringing organizations and sectors into alignment around a shared understanding of the community, including its strengths, assets, and challenges, and creating a common language to support coordinated action.

Request an Assessment

Submit your request [here](#). You will receive an email confirmation and one PDF copy of the 2025–2027 C.O.R.E. Guide. Additional PDFs or hard copies may be purchased separately. Please note there is a \$1,500 assessment fee, which supports expert review, a detailed feedback report, and optional coaching. An invoice will be issued within five business days of submitting the Request for Assessment form.

Prepare your Application

Respond to all questions in the Community Profile and Item 2.3(1) of the C.O.R.E. Guide. Item 2.3(1) asks you to describe your community's current quality-of-life results. These should include available data showing levels, trends, and comparisons across areas such as health, education, economy, or other locally important factors. This is not about perfect or comprehensive data. It is about demonstrating that your core group understands current conditions and uses information to inform shared priorities. The application is limited to 12 pages, excluding a cover page, core group structure chart, and glossary of abbreviations.

What Reviewers Are Looking for at this Level

At the Commitment level, reviewers are not evaluating performance excellence or outcomes. They are looking for evidence that a core group of leaders is in place, has a shared understanding of community conditions, and are beginning to use information to align around priorities that matter to quality of life. Clear, honest descriptions are valued more than polished narratives. Communities do not need comprehensive data or fully developed strategies to benefit from this assessment.

Formatting

- One- or two-column layout
- Minimum 11-pt font (9-pt for charts/graphs), ½-inch margins, page numbers required
- Bold section headers; questions do not need to be written out
- Tables, diagrams, and graphs are encouraged

Submit your Application

Email completed application to stephanie@connectwithcore.org.

What Happens Next

Within four weeks you will receive a report with strengths and considerations to support your continuous improvement along with a certificate acknowledging your community's commitment and the opportunity to be recognized at our annual conference celebration. You may also request a one-hour briefing to discuss the report.