

Baldrige Health Care Glossary HD: Action Plans

Action Plans

The term “*action plans*” refers to specific actions that respond to short- and longer-term [strategic objectives](#). [Action plans](#) include details of resource commitments and time horizons for accomplishment. [Action plan](#) development represents the critical stage in planning when [strategic objectives](#) and [goals](#) are made specific so that [effective](#), organization-wide understanding and [deployment](#) are possible. In the [Criteria](#), [deployment of action plans](#) includes creating [aligned measures](#) for all departments and work units. [Deployment](#) also might require specialized training for some staff or recruitment of personnel.

An example of a [strategic objective](#) for a health [system](#) in an area with an active business alliance focusing on cost and quality of care might be to become the low-cost provider. [Action plans](#) could entail designing efficient [processes](#) to optimize length of hospital stays, reduce the rework resulting from [patient](#) injuries and treatment errors, [analyze](#) resource and asset use, and [analyze](#) the most commonly encountered DRGs with a focus on preventive health in those areas. [Deployment](#) requirements might include department/work unit care givers and [workforce](#) training in setting priorities based on costs and benefits. Organizational-level [analysis](#) and review likely would emphasize [process](#) efficiency, cost per [patient](#), and health care quality.

Note: [Blue](#) words above are hyperlinks to other Glossary HD term definitions.

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