

Blackboard Focus on Feature: Adaptive Release & Dashboard

What is Adaptive Release?

Adaptive Release is a feature of Blackboard that gives instructors the ability to release content to students based on a set of rules. It creates a learning path for students to follow. Students must meet the criteria before the subsequent content will appear. This can simply mean the student marked the item as reviewed or the criteria can be more sophisticated allowing you to release content based on student scores. At any time an instructor can locate where a student is within the given learning path. This can be viewed from the Manage Item view or through the Performance Dashboard.

Types of Adaptive Release

There are two types of adaptive release:

1. Adaptive Release (Basic) - one rule allowed per item
2. Adaptive Release: Advanced - multiple rules allowed per item

Adaptive Release rules can be based on the following criteria:

1. Date - available only on a specific date or date range
2. Membership - available only to a specific set of students - by username or by group
3. Gradebook Item - available based on students received score or completed attempt
4. Review Status - available based on reviewed material

"Note: Only one Membership criteria and one Date criteria may be created for each rule. Multiple Gradebook criteria and Review Status criteria may be added to each rule." *(Taken directly from Blackboard Manual)*

Adding Date Criteria

Follow these steps to add a date criteria for an item:

1. Open course Control Panel
2. At the Control Panel, locate the content area that contains the item you wish to add a date criteria. The chosen content area page will appear.
3. Click the Manage button to the right of the desired item.
4. At the Manage Adaptive Release page, click the Adaptive Release link. The Adaptive Release page appears.
5. Select the dates of availability and then scroll down the page and click the Submit button.
6. The Rule updated page appears letting you know your change was successful. Click the OK button.
7. This returns you to the Manage Adaptive Release page. If desired, click the OK button to return to the chosen content area page.

**Note: A Date criteria will most likely be used in conjunction with another criteria.*

Adding Membership Criteria

Follow these steps to add membership criteria for an item:

1. Open course Control Panel
2. At the Control Panel, locate the content area that contains the item you wish to add membership criteria. The chosen content area page will appear.
3. Click the Manage button to the right of the desired item.
4. At the Manage Adaptive Release page, click the Adaptive Release link. The Adaptive Release page appears.
5. Click the Browse button to locate specific students or add a whole group to membership.
6. Then, scroll down the page and click the Submit button.
7. The Rule updated page appears letting you know your change was successful. Click the OK button.
8. This returns you to the Manage Adaptive Release page. If desired, click the OK button to return to the chosen content area page.

Adding Gradebook Criteria

Follow these steps to add gradebook criteria for an item:

1. Open course Control Panel
2. At the Control Panel, locate the content area that contains the item you wish to add gradebook criteria. The chosen content area page will appear.
3. Click the Manage button to the right of the desired item.
4. At the Manage Adaptive Release page, click the Adaptive Release link. The Adaptive Release page appears.
5. Select the Gradebook item to base the criteria on and then select the conditions.
6. Then, scroll down the page and click the Submit button.
7. The Rule updated page appears letting you know your change was successful. Click the OK button.
8. This returns you to the Manage Adaptive Release page. If desired, click the OK button to return to the chosen content area page.

Adding Advance Criteria (more than one rule)

Follow these steps to add membership criteria for an item:

1. Open course Control Panel
2. At the Control Panel, locate the content area that contains the item you wish to add advanced criteria. The chosen content area page will appear.
3. Click the Manage button to the right of the desired item.
4. At the Manage Adaptive Release page, click the Adaptive Release: Advanced link. The Adaptive Release: Advanced page appears.
5. Click the Rule button to create a new rule from scratch or select rule to copy and then click the Copy button to copy the existing rule to modify.
6. If you click the Rule button, the Add Rule page appears. Give rule a name and then click the Submit button. The Manage Criteria page appears click the criteria button you would like to add to the rule. The corresponding criteria page appears, enter criteria, and then click the submit button. If you choose to copy an existing rule, click the Modify button to the right of the copied rule. Modify one of the existing criteria or add new criteria. Click the OK button when complete. You are returned to the Adaptive Release: Advanced page. Click the OK button.
7. This returns you to the Manage Adaptive Release page. If desired, click the OK button to return to the chosen content area page.

What is the Performance Dashboard?

The Performance Dashboard provides a quick view of student activity within a Blackboard course. It displays the following information:

- Last Name
- First Name
- Username
- Role
- Date/Time of Last Login (*login to Blackboard system not course*)
- Days Since Last Login
- Review Status (*if enabled in course*)
- Adaptive Release (*if enabled in course*)
- View Grades (*if Gradebook is enabled and used in course*)

Accessing the Performance Dashboard

Follow these steps to access performance dashboard:

1. At the course Control Panel, locate the Assessment area and then click the Performance Dashboard link.
2. The Performance Dashboard page appears. Click on student's adaptive release button to see where the student is within the learning path.