

Online Performance Review (OPR) Reference Guide

The Online Performance Review (OPR) system is used to manage the six steps of the performance review process. Once a review has gone through the complete process in OPR, it becomes a permanent part of the personnel file in IRIS and remains available for viewing in OPR for up to two years.

Note: To prevent connectivity issues, please do not use OPR while connected to Remote Desktop.

Getting Started

The OPR home page includes:

- Dropdown menu to select the review type, including up to two years of prior reviews that were completed in OPR
- A list of any action items needing your attention
- A list of your direct reports, if applicable

The screenshot shows the OPR home page for The University of Tennessee Knoxville. At the top left is the university logo. The main heading is "Online Performance Review". Below this is a navigation bar with three callout boxes:

- Select A Review Type:** A dropdown menu currently showing "2021 Midyear Performance Review (June - August)". A callout box labeled "Review period selection" points to this dropdown.
- Action Items:** A section titled "Action Items" with the subtitle "Items that require your attention". It includes a "Show 10 entries" dropdown and a search field. Below is a table with columns: Name, NetID, Review Status, Relationship, Total Score, and Actions. One row is visible with "Supervisor Approval Pending" status and a "Supervisor" relationship. A "Previous 1 Next" pagination control is at the bottom right.
- Direct Reports:** A section titled "Direct Reports" with the subtitle "A list of your direct reports populated from Orgchart Manager". It includes a "Show 10 entries" dropdown and a search field. Below is a table with columns: Name, NetID, Review Status, Relationship, Total Score, and Actions. Two rows are visible, both with "Not Started" status and "Direct Report" relationships. A "Direct report not correct" link is visible in the top right of this section.

The Performance Review Process

OPR is designed to follow the University's standard performance review policies, as reflected in the six steps outlined below. Your department or organization may adapt additional processes beyond those described here. For the purposes of OPR, the term *final approver* refers to the individual responsible for signing off on the final review. This is typically the "two-up" manager (two levels up from the employee being reviewed), but may vary in some circumstances.

Note: The process for employees begins with Step 3b on page 5.

1. The supervisor drafts the performance review.

The supervisor initiates the review process.

- a. Select **Actions** next to the employee record.



- b. Refer to the table below.

If you want to...	Then...
Start the review process with a blank form	Select Start New . 
Import entries from a previous review into the current review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Select Start From Previous.  ii. In the From drop-down menu, select the review you wish to use as a basis for the current review. iii. Select Import Review. <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin: 5px 0;"> <p>From: 2019 Annual Performance Review → To: 2020 Midyear Performance Review</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> </div>

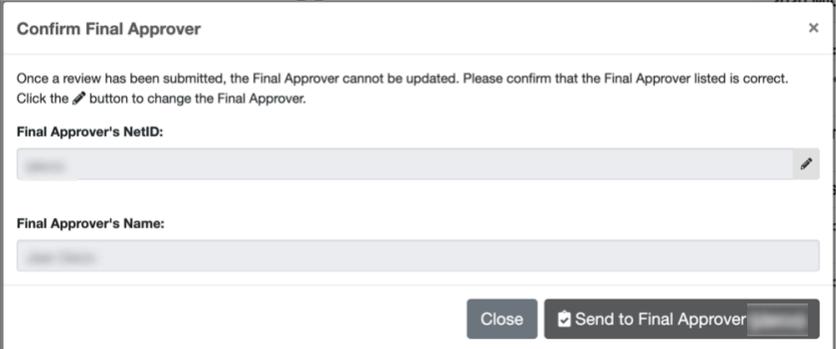
Note: While editing a review, you have up to 20 minutes to make your selections during a single session for security and data integrity purposes. You will be prompted to extend your session if you need more time. Otherwise, you will be signed out of the app when the timer expires, and any unsaved changes will be lost.

- c. Select the rating for each category.
- d. Add **Supervisor's Comments** to support the overall review and/or as documentation for the ratings of 1 or 5.
- e. If needed, upload any relevant PDF files to the **Supporting Documents** area.
- f. Add or import goals and objectives, as needed:

If you want to...	Then...
Add a new goal/objective for the employee to start working toward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. In the New Goals and Objectives section, select Add New Goal. ii. Describe the goal in the Goals and Objectives textbox. iii. Select a date for the time frame. This could be the estimated time of accomplishing the goal or the expected date for an update on progress. iv. In the Goal Evaluation textbox, enter the method(s) or indicator(s) that will be used to evaluate the goal, if known at this time. v. Select Save New Goal.
Import a goal/objective from a previous review to update progress or adjust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. In the In-Progress Goals and Objectives section, select Import a Goal. This option is only available if a prior review has been completed in OPR and included at least one goal.

If you want to...	Then...
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. From the Review Types drop-down, select the previous review containing the goal you wish to import. iii. Select the checkbox(es) next to the goal(s) you wish to import. iv. Select Import goal. v. If you need to make any updates or changes to the goal, select the pencil icon and revise as needed.

g. Refer to the table below:

If you want to...	Then...
Save the review but not yet move to the next step	<p>Select Save & Complete Later.</p>  <p>You can return to the review later in your Direct Reports area by selecting Actions > Edit.</p>
Submit the review draft to your leader for approval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Select Send to Final Approver.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. In the Confirm Final Approver popup, ensure the correct approver is listed. If another approver should be used instead for this review, select the pencil icon and update the NetID. iii. Select Send to Final Approver. 

What happens next? The review goes to the leader/final approver for evaluation. The final approver can either approve the review or return it to the supervisor for revisions.

2. The final approver reviews the draft.

The leader/final approver reads the performance review and decides if it is ready to be sent to the employee.

- a. Select **Actions** next to the employee record.

Actions ▾

- b. Select **View Review** to go over the manager's ratings and comments.
- c. Refer to the table below:

If you want to...	Then...
Agree with the review and move forward with the process	Select Approve Performance Review . This sends the review back to the supervisor to move to the next step.
See one or more changes made to the review	Select Disapprove Performance Review . This sends the review back to the supervisor for additional edits. The supervisor returns to step 1.

 Approve Performance Review

 Disapprove Performance Review

Note: You can also approve or reject the review directly from the Actions screen.

What happens next? The leader/final approver either approves or disapproves the review and returns it to the supervisor. If disapproved, the supervisor will need to edit the review and submit it to the final approver again.

3a. The supervisor releases the review to the employee.

The manager makes the performance review available to the employee for review and comments.

- a. Select **Actions** next to the employee record.

Actions ▾

- b. Refer to the table below:

If you want to...	Then...
Make the review available to the employee	Select Release to Employee .
View the review prior to releasing to the employee	Select View Review .

 Release to Employee

 View Review

- c. Schedule time to meet with the employee to discuss performance.

What happens next? The review is sent to the employee for review and digital signing. You should also plan to meet with the employee to discuss the performance review. Using OPR does not remove the requirement to meet with the employee to discuss performance.

3b. The supervisor and employee meet to discuss the employee's performance review.

The supervisor and employee meet one-on-one to discuss the employee's performance.

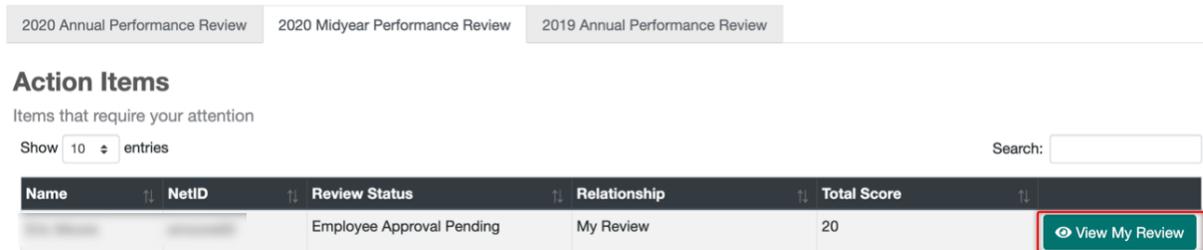
What happens next? After the performance review meeting, the employee adds comments, goals, and/or supporting documents, if desired, and then digitally signs the review.

4. The employee adds any comments, goals, or supporting documents, and signs the review.

The employee views the review, adds comments and/or goal evaluations, and digitally signs the review.

Once your supervisor and leadership have agreed upon the ratings and comments in your performance review, you will receive an email notifying you that your performance review is ready for you to view.

- a. In the **Action Items** section, select **View My Review**.



- b. View the ratings, comments, and goals provided by your supervisor. Notice the total **Review Score** provided along the right side of the page.

Note: While displaying your review, you have up to 20 minutes to view it during a single session for security and data integrity purposes. You will be prompted to extend your session if you need more time. Otherwise, you will be signed out of the app when the timer expires, and any unsaved changes will be lost.

- c. Meet with your supervisor to discuss your performance review.
- d. Refer to the table below:

If you want to...	Then...
Acknowledge and sign the review as is, without adding any comments, supporting documents, or goals	Select Digitally Sign . This submits the review to the final approver (jumping to step 6). 
Add comments, goals, and/or PDF documentation to be retained with your review (<i>the supervisor can make changes to the review after this step, if needed</i>)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Select Add Comments and Goals at the bottom of the review.  ii. In the Employee's Comments textbox, enter any comments you would like to submit with the review. iii. Under Supporting Documents, select Browse if you would like to attach any supporting PDF files to the review. iv. In the Goals and Objectives sections, you can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Import a goal from a previous review that was completed in the OPR system, if any. Select Import a

If you want to...

Then...

Goal, select the previous review from which to import, and select the checkbox(es) next to the goal(s) you wish to import. You can then use the pencil icon to update or adjust the goal, if needed.

- Add a new goal to begin working toward. This is typically a goal that has not been included in a previous review in OPR. Select **Add New Goal**, describe the goal, set a timeframe you expect to complete the goal or update the status, describe how you will evaluate your progress, and save the goal.

v. **To sign your review and save your comments, supporting documents, and/or goals, select Sign & Submit Responses.**

To return the review to your supervisor without signing it, (for example, to consider revisions), select **Send Back to Supervisor**. This saves any comments, documents, or goals you may have added, and then returns the review to your supervisor, who can then make changes, if needed, and resubmit to you for signing.

To finish your review later, select Save & Complete Later.

Employee's Comments: (Employees may provide additional comments to be retained with this document in the personnel file.)

Supporting Documents
PDF documents only; max filesize of 25MB

Browse...

Goals and Objectives

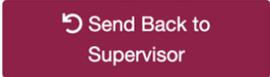
- The Goals & Objectives should include both departmental goals and plans for personal and professional development.
- The time frame indicates when the goal should be accomplished
- Evaluation indicates how accomplishment will be measured

Goals and Objectives	Time Frame	Evaluation
Serve as PM on at least two projects involving multiple teams.	2020-11-10	

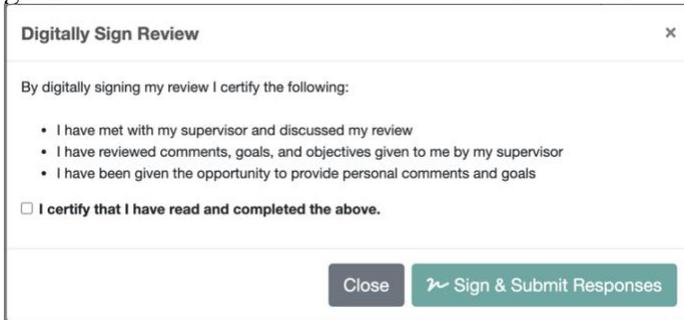
Save & Complete Later Sign & Submit Responses Send Back to Supervisor

Return the review to your supervisor unsigned (e.g., to

Select **Send Back to Supervisor**. This returns the review to your supervisor, who can then make changes, if needed, and resubmit to

If you want to...	Then...
request revisions), without adding comments, goals, or supporting documents	you for signing. 

- vi. Upon signing your review, a popup confirmation will appear, prompting you to agree that you have met with your supervisor to discuss your review; reviewed comments, goals, and objectives given to you by your supervisor; and had an opportunity to provide personal comments and goals.



What happens next? If you signed your review without adding comments, goals, or supporting documents, it will be submitted to the final approver (typically, the individual to whom your supervisor reports). If you added comments, goals, or supporting documents when signing your review, or if you selected the option to send the review back to your supervisor, it will be submitted to your supervisor, who will either return it to you with any necessary revisions or submit it to the final approver.

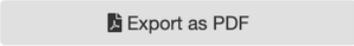
5. The supervisor reviews the signed/commented review and submits to the final approver.

The supervisor gives the review a final look and either sends it to the final approver or makes additional changes and sends it back to the employee for review.

- a. Select **Actions** next to the employee record.



- b. Refer to the table below:

If you want to...	Then...
Look at the review again	Select View Review . 
Make changes to the review	Select Edit Review and make the necessary revisions.  Note: Making changes at this point will return the review to the employee (step 4) for review and approval.
Submit the review for final approval	Select Send to Final Approver . 
Save a copy of the review as a PDF	Select Export as PDF . 

What happens next? The review goes back to the leader/final approver for a final glance before sending it on to HR. If the supervisor edits the review, it will instead go back to the employee (Step 4) for review and approval.

6. The final approver submits the review to HR.

The leader/final approver gives the review a final look and sends it to HR, after which no further changes can be made.

- a. Select **Actions** next to the employee record.



- b. Refer to the table below:

If you want to...	Then...
Read the final version of the review	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Select View Review.  ii. Select Sign & Release to HR at the bottom of the review.
Submit the review to HR and close the review process for this employee	Select Sign & Release to HR . 
Return the review to the supervisor for additional edits	Select Send Back to Supervisor .  Note: This returns the review to draft status (Step 1), but with all the previous ratings and comments intact.

What happens next? The review goes to HR and will be uploaded to the employee's file in IRIS.

Managing Reviews

While the instructions above focus on using the **Actions** button to move through the six steps of the overall performance review process, there is another method for managing a specific review: the **Manage** button. Both methods provide access to the same actions and options; however, additional features on the **Manage Review** page include:

- Ability to focus on a single employee's review all on one screen
- Explanatory text accompanying each possible action on a specific employee's review
- A Review Checklist that tracks each step of a specific employee's review in a checklist format

The **Manage Review** screen presents all the possible actions and options throughout a review's lifecycle. Actions are "grayed out" and unavailable when a review has not yet reached that step, another person is responsible for that action (for example, the final approver), or the review has advanced beyond that action item.

The **Review Checklist** identifies and tracks the six steps in the performance review process for the currently selected review.

Review Checklist

= Complete = Pending = Not Started

Draft Performance Review

Final Approver Review

Release Review to Employee

Receive Employee Approval

Supervisor Review

Submit Review to HR

The **Review Info** describes the currently selected review, including the employee's name, type of review, status, and final approver information. If needed, you can override the Final Approver by selecting the pencil icon and entering the appropriate approver's NetID. You also have an option to export the review to a PDF file, if needed.

2020 Midyear Performance Review Info

Employee's Name: [Redacted]

Review Type: 2020 Midyear Performance Review

Review Status: Final Approver Pending

Defer Review Until:

Final Approver's NetID: [Redacted]

Final Approver's Name: [Redacted]

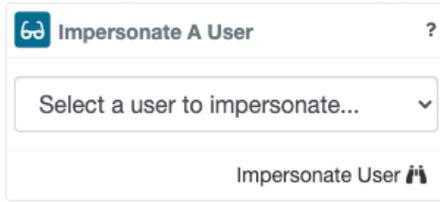
Export Review:

Proxy Access

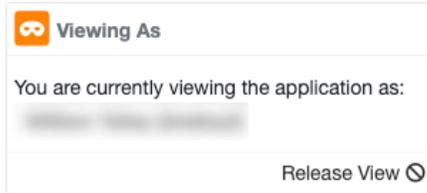
If you have been given proxy access to another individual in Orgchart Manager, that same access carries over to OPR. This gives you access to that individual's direct report(s).

1. In the *Impersonate a User* area, select the user for which you have proxy access.

2. Select **Impersonate User**. You are now viewing OPR from this individual's perspective and you can manage reviews accordingly.



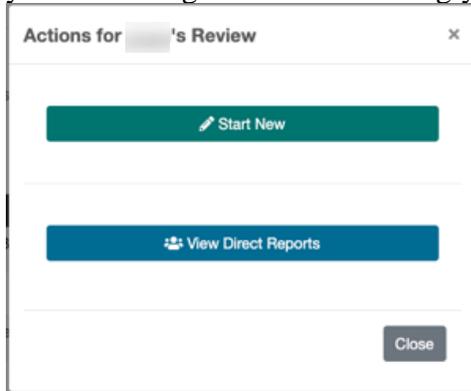
3. To return to your own view, select **Release View** in the *Viewing As* area.



View Direct Reports

Managers and leaders have the option to view OPR from the viewpoint of any of their direct reports. This can be useful if, for example, a director or manager needs to complete performance reviews for employees who report to an unfilled supervisor position.

1. In the list of Direct Reports, select **Actions** next to the manager.
2. Select **View Direct Reports**. You are now viewing OPR from this individual's perspective and you can manage reviews accordingly.



3. To return to your own view, select **Release View** in the *Viewing As* area.

