The Assessment Review Board (ARB) was formed by the Kantara Initiative (KI) in early 2009 to review all applications for Accreditation and Approval and to support and promulgate the use, maintenance, and improvement of the Identity Assurance Framework (IAF). The ARB has two principle tasks; 1) to pre-screen and recommend for Accreditation Assessors who may then use the IAF when assessing electronic credential services, and 2) to review assessment reports prepared by Accredited Assessors following their assessments of electronic credential services, and to recommend that services that are found to be in conformity with Kantara’s Service Assessment Criteria be granted Kantara Approval. The ARB makes its recommendations to the KI Board of Trustees which make the final decision in all matters.

Five voting members presently comprise the ARB. These members draw from the following business sectors: government, higher education, auditing, health care, and standards creation. Two members are based in Europe and three members are based in the United States. The Board is supported by a senior information security specialist who acts in an advisory role and was the principal architect of the IAF.

The ARB coordinates with two other Kantara work groups: the Identity Assurance Work Group, which performs detailed maintenance to the IAF and its component documents including the Service Assessment Criteria and the Assessor Qualification and Requirements, and whose Chairperson participates as an ARB Observer, for liaison purposes; and the Privacy and Public Policy Work Group (P3WG), which is creating and will maintain the Privacy Assessment Criteria and its supporting components.