

Name of College: Hazard Community and Technical College

Title of Quality Enhancement Plan: Connections to College Success: Enhancing Developmental Education

Contact Information:

Name and Title: Lisa Maggard, Director of the Quality Enhancement Plan

E-Mail Address: lisa.maggard@kctcs.edu

Executive Summary:

Connections to College Success, the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) developed at Hazard Community and Technical College (HCTC), is founded on HCTC's mission and goals, incorporates Learning College principles and has been embedded in HCTC's institutional planning and evaluation processes. The QEP focus is connecting underprepared full-time students to college success by strengthening the developmental education program and by establishing a Center for College Success to support the learning of developmental students during the critical first year.

Research by the QEP Management Team consisted of literature reviews, institutional data analysis and external data analysis that support the focus of the QEP. Research indicated most degree-seeking students enrolling in HCTC are underprepared for college-level work. ACT scores of HCTC students are lower than both state and national averages. COMPASS placement assessment results, used at HCTC for incoming degree-seeking students, confirm that the majority of entering students are underprepared in mathematics, writing, or reading. Additionally, a Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) study reinforces this data. According to the CPE study, a significant number (87.8%) of entering HCTC students are underprepared in reading, writing, or mathematics. As a result of research, forums, and analysis, the QEP focus emerged.

Connections to College Success will increase student learning at HCTC by **strengthening the developmental education program** through addressing the learning environment in the developmental classroom. A **Center for College Success** will encourage students to adopt behaviors that support achievement of their academic goals, providing comprehensive support through advising, career counseling, and other interventions. The QEP will provide underprepared students at HCTC with the connections to learning facilitators and to each other that are integral to their success. Comprehensive assessment measures, both formative and summative, evaluate the overall plan objectives, initiative outcomes, and student learning outcomes.

Achievement of Connections to College Success will enhance developmental education at HCTC and its delivery to students. The initiatives and supporting activities directly promote the success of underprepared students. Strengthening the Developmental Education Program will increase student understanding of reading, writing, and mathematics. The interventions of the Center for College Success will help students perform behaviors consistent with academic success. Strategies will encourage students to set and pursue life goals and increase student aspirations. The implementation of the plan will integrate the activities to provide developmental students with comprehensive support connected to high-quality developmental classes. By combining interventions in the classes with outside interventions, developmental students will experience an integrated first-year experience that supports the acquisition of substantive changes in both knowledge and behavior. Inevitably, full implementation and achievement of the QEP will have a lasting impact on the culture of HCTC by positively affecting student persistence and success.