

Transition Investment Pathways for Students (TIPS)

Hazard Community and Technical College
Hazard, Kentucky

QEP Mission Statement

HCTC's QEP will support students with the successful transition to college and career, invest in student's soft skills for academic and career success, and empower students to build self-confidence for lifelong personal success.

Summary

The primary focus of HCTC's TIPS QEP is to prepare first-time, full-time students for college and career success with an emphasis on soft skills development. To improve student learning and performance, HCTC will implement a First-Year Experience (FYE) course, FYE 105 Achieving Academic Success, with an emphasis on soft skills development through a phased process utilizing Open Educational Resources (OER) for the in-person and online course delivery modes.

Key TIPS implementation strategies include:

- (a) the creation and delivery of a TIPS first-year experience course (FYE 105) using OER materials with an emphasis on soft skills development,
- (b) the incorporation of proactive intervention strategies during and after the FYE 100 course to promote student learning, academic progress, success, and persistence, and
- (c) the implementation of professional development to train faculty and staff in FYE best practices.

TIPS Goals

Three TIPS goals were developed after comprehensively reviewing and researching first-year experience best practices and consulting with other colleges that have implemented similar programs.

The TIPS goals are:

- (a) to provide first-time, full-time HCTC students with an introductory experience to support the successful transition to college and career,
- (b) to invest in students' soft skill development for academic and career success, and
- (c) to empower students to be independent agents of their academic and career pathways.

As HCTC students develop the necessary academic and soft skills, student learning, retention, and persistence will improve, directly benefitting both students and HCTC. TIPS assist with the transition from high school to college and college to career, having increased soft skills for academic and career success, and empowering students to be independent agents of their academic and career pathways. In addition, the TIPS program supports the HCTC mission by "empower[ing] diverse learners, building self-confidence...and lifelong personal success."

QEP Contacts:

QEP Director: Amanda Spencer-Barnes, Amanda.Spencer-barnes@kctcs.edu

TIPS Coordinator: Chestina Turner, Chestina.turner@kctcs.edu