

***Enriching Student Learning Through Technology Readiness***  
**Piedmont Technical College**  
**Executive Summary**

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The goal of the Piedmont Technical College Quality Enhancement Plan is to enrich student learning by identifying, assessing, and implementing technology readiness strategies for three groups of learners: those who participate in developmental studies coursework, those who enroll in online or web-enhanced courses, and those who take the frequently required computer technology course, CPT 101: Introduction to Computers. By integrating the competencies identified for each of these three “strands,” the technology readiness needs of entering, ongoing, and returning students will be addressed.

A baseline set of competencies was established, progressively, for each of the three learning strands. An online instrument was contracted and developed by the Assessment Team to identify student readiness competencies for each strand. Based on the results of assessment testing, students will be placed in appropriate courses. A one-credit, preparatory course for online learning is already in place. A one-credit, intermediate course preparing students for Introduction to Computers has been developed. Ongoing assessment will continue to collect data to measure the impact of readiness placement testing on student success in identified courses and as they progress through the curriculum. Indirectly, the Implementation and Assessment Teams will coordinate ongoing dialogue with instructors involved in teaching developmental studies courses, online and web-enhanced courses, and computer technology courses in order to keep the competency list current and relevant. By the end of the five-year plan, implementation will be college wide, extending to all curricula and to all seven campus centers. Timelines, assessment strategies, types of assessment, and criteria for success have been established by the Assessment Team.

The PTC QEP enhances student learning by placing students in a learning environment which predicts success, by collecting data to monitor the results of the placement testing in order to continually improve the process, by publishing the required competencies to the entire college community, and by developing and sharing success strategies for advising, teaching, and learning in order to improve completion and retention rates.

Technology readiness is a vital link to the college mission of “access and equity.” Enrollment trends mark online and web-enhanced learning growth as the driving force behind PTC’s continued vitality in the seven-county region it serves. National, state, and local data indicates this astonishing growth in technology-enhanced learning will continue into the foreseeable future. This information provides the sustaining motivation for *Enriching Student Learning through Technology Readiness*.