



Tidewater Community College's Quality Enhancement Plan

Executive Summary

Progressive Academic and Career Experience (P.A.C.E.) is Tidewater Community College's (TCC) Quality Enhancement Plan. The plan is the culmination of two years of work led by a QEP Steering Committee of dedicated TCC employees comprised of administrators, faculty, staff, and students. Aligning with the college's mission and other ongoing college initiatives to support student success, P.A.C.E. is designed to help students achieve career success through self-awareness, academic planning, experiential learning opportunities, and co-curricular experiences that help students achieve their career goals.

P.A.C.E. focuses on providing a learning environment while assessing student learning at three distinct stages in the student's career development process. Students will be able to:

- (1) Identify potential careers based on their skills, interests, and abilities;
- (2) Articulate the steps needed to achieve their career goal; and
- (3) Reflect on the benefits of participation in experiential learning opportunities and describe the significance of new knowledge and skills learned.

The learning outcomes are supported by six activities designed to promote career development and student engagement throughout a student's college experience. Students participate in a required career advising meeting prior to enrolling in classes their first semester. During this meeting, students are mandated to enroll in a student development course within their first semester of enrollment. Within this course, students will complete a career interest inventory and career assignment. Students still undecided after this course will meet with a career advisor for assistance with clarifying goals. During the second semester of enrollment, students will be assigned a faculty advisor within their academic pathway. Upon completion of 30 credits, students will participate in a second required career advising meeting and experiential learning opportunity. Finally, once students attain 45-60 credits, they will participate in career exploration experiences supported by co-curricular offerings.

In addition to using evaluation rubrics to assess student learning, quantifiable measures to assess student success will include: (1) Increase advancement rate; (2) Increase fall-to-spring retention rate; (3) Increase fall-to-fall retention rate; (4) Increase transfer rate; and (5) Increase employment rate.

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