

# Valencia College's Quality Enhancement Plan: The New Student Experience

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Valencia serves 61,217 students (annual unduplicated headcount in 2013-14) at five campus locations in Osceola and Orange Counties. Our mission is to provide opportunities for academic, technical and life-long learning in a collaborative culture dedicated to inquiry, results, and excellence. Over the past ten years Valencia has been continually engaged in national, grant-related projects focused on improving student learning / success.

In the design of the QEP it was important to ensure the connection to the College's mission, its values, and its past. Following an 18 month, thorough and collaborative process of inquiry and discovery Valencia's QEP was designed to build upon Valencia's history, institutional priorities, and practices, with specific focus on [Valencia's Big Ideas](#).

[Valencia's QEP](#) will create a New Student Experience (NSE) that provides a coordinated experience for all students with fewer than 15 college-level credits at Valencia. The plan has curricular and co-curricular components that will be implemented and enhanced over the next five years. The NSE will include a required credit-earning course and an extended orientation to college; student success skills integrated into select program introduction courses; front door general education alignment, and career and academic advising to include the development of an individualized education plan. We envision the new student experience will result in enhanced curricular and co-curricular student engagement, leading to the successful completion of the first 15 college-level credits at Valencia. Wherever possible, the curricular aspects of the new student experience will be offered in partnership with faculty in academic and career programs.

Guiding the work of the NSE are six student-centered outcomes ([referred to as the 6 Ps](#)) focused on the emerging theme that students need navigation. We believe that to be successful, students not only need an educational plan, but they also need clear and specific directions for navigating the demands of college.

1. Purpose: Students will create a personal purpose statement that outlines and articulates their values, goals, interests, and strengths in relation to their educational and career aspirations.
2. Pathway: Students will choose an academic program aligned with their educational/career goals, interests, strengths, and values.
3. Plan: Students will design an education plan that include goals for learning and a financial plan.
4. Preparation: Students will apply college success skills.
5. Personal Connection: Students will demonstrate effective communication skills with diverse groups.
6. Place: Students will demonstrate awareness of college support systems.