

Mentoring, Advising and Planning for Success (MAPS)
Carteret Community College

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QEP Executive Summary

Carteret Community College's mission statement affirms that the College "offers opportunities for lifelong learning through high quality traditional and distance learning teaching, training, support, and enrichment with the intended purpose of improving the quality of life for all citizens of Carteret County and eastern North Carolina." This mission statement is embedded in the College's commitment to educate and support students in creating a clear path from where students begin to the attainment of their ultimate educational and transfer or career goals.

The College formed a QEP Discovery Team to obtain broad-based support of institutional constituencies and identify a topic by collecting and analyzing institutional data. Through this process, the College identified a gap between students' long-term goals and their academic pathways, the need for career planning, and the need for training for advisors. The College's extensive research helped identify the need for improved advising practices.

The College adopted a new advising philosophy to guide efforts in improving advising practices. Carteret Community College believes that "Academic advising is a systematic process that uses interactive teaching, counseling, mentoring, and administrative strategies to assist students in developing a pathway to their educational, career, and personal goals. Academic advising models the College's mission of offering opportunities for lifelong learning; it is ongoing, multifaceted, and the responsibility of students, advisors, and College administrators."

Carteret Community College's QEP is entitled Mentoring, Advising, and Planning for Success (MAPS). This initiative provides an opportunity to analyze first-year student success and second-year progression. The QEP focuses on design, implementation, and assessment. As the College helps students align their career and educational goals with an academic pathway, the QEP is expected to have positive long-term implications for supporting and educating students.

The College will focus on improving the Student Success course, ACA-122, and developing a centralized advising and mentoring center, MAPS. The ACA-122 course and MAPS center will converge to improve student success. The ACA-122 course will assist students in developing academic and career goals and pathways to achieving those goals. Students will also learn the skills needed to be a successful college student. The MAPS center will reinforce the skills learned in ACA-122 and provide additional support to students in completing their desired programs.

The MAPS initiative offers the College opportunities to bridge teaching and advising practices to provide first-year students with clear direction for success and then support second-year students with applicable continued advising and planning services and support. In an effort to bring all advising up to one standard of successful best advising practices, the MAPS center will be a training hub for faculty advisors to improve advising strategies, learn to utilize all of the early alert tools in retention software, such as AVISO, and to have a central location for accessing all programs information. Supporting faculty in the development of sound advising will ensure that all students benefit from a wholistic approach to mentoring, advising, and planning for success post-completion of their chosen academic pathway.