



Institution: Southern University and A&M College
Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP): Journey to Achieve Greater Success (JAGS)
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Southern University and A&M College has identified and developed a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) that is consistent with our mission, focuses on student success and reflects our commitment to continuous improvement. The institution remains committed to helping our students succeed in their academic effort, graduate on time and go on to have productive careers, live noble lives and contribute to society as global citizens. The QEP is aligned with our strategic plan and with workforce development goals of the state of Louisiana.

The institution’s QEP titled **JAGS – Journey to Achieve Greater Success**, focuses on the first-year experience of our undergraduate students. It incorporates (1) planned curriculum revisions in gateway courses in three select disciplines, and (2) a more coordinated academic enrichment effort in support of first-year students. The QEP activities are aligned with the Southern University and A&M College [Strategic Plan, IMAGINE 20K: 2018 – 2030](#), and reinforces our commitment to providing a high-quality academic experience for all students so that they can succeed.

The table below illustrates and defines our success outcomes, target levels, and timeline:

JAGS QEP Success Outcomes			
	Outcome	Target Level	Timeline
Upon completion of this program Southern University and A&M College will be able to:	Increase in retention from first to second year.	Data will show a 12% or more increase in students returning for their second year of studies.	5 years
	Increase in student passage rates in gateway courses.	Data will show a 14%-31% or more increase in students passing select gateway courses. In English, Biology and Mathematics	5 years

The retention rate as measured at the end of the 2017-2018 academic year (baseline year) was 64.02%. Through our proposed activities and intervention, we intend to improve retention each year at a compounded growth rate of 2.38% in order to achieve a 12.46% or more enhancement resulting in retention rate of 72% or more over the next five-year period. This aspirational target rate aligns with the average student retention rate of comparable institutions nationwide.

The five-year assessment plan is annualized by measuring progress each academic year. We will specifically focus on a direct measure of assessment by capturing improvement in the number and percentage of first-year students progressing to their second year at the university. We will also measure improvements in passage rates in select gateway courses that our students are enrolled during their first year of attendance. Further, we will measure attendance and participation in designated JAGS QEP activities, use student and faculty surveys, and track attendance and participation in the writing and tutoring centers as additional indirect measures that impact success of our QEP effort.