

Focus on Financial Fitness

Hill College

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of Hill College’s Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), “Focus on Financial Fitness,” is to enhance student’s financial education with essential resources that support their financial well-being at Hill College and into the future.

Utilizing existing planning and evaluation information in the topic development process, it was determined that financial fitness of students was a significant issue that needed to be addressed. Hill College’s QEP topic was chosen and designed to address the higher than average debt load that Hill College graduates carry and the challenges they are facing in managing expenses and debt. The QEP topic supports a key aspect of the Hill College Mission Statement: “Hill College provides high quality, comprehensive educational programs and services. The college enhances the educational, cultural, and economic development of its service area and *prepares individuals for a more productive life.*”

The QEP purpose was used to guide the development of five key strategies, the college’s roadmap to achieve the ultimate goal of financial fitness for Hill College students: educate students about finances through implementation of focused curriculum in courses, workshops, and speakers; establish a faculty learning community where faculty will explore and develop cost savings initiatives for students, design curriculum and assessments, and train one another to impact student financial health; establish a money management center for students to access resources, training, and professional guidance; develop a tailored loan letter to engage and educate student debt holders; and educate faculty and staff about their impact on students’ finances through a series of workshops, speakers, and trainings. Implementation of the plan occurs over three phases, beginning in summer 2020.

Six student success outcomes have been clearly identified with measurable criteria for success. A full assessment plan includes both formative and summative assessment activities. Assessment of the plan is ongoing as implementation of the plan progresses and modifications will be made for continuous improvement.

Hill College will support the QEP activities by allocating financial and human resources for implementation.