



Quality Enhancement Plan Executive Summary

Meridian Community College
“Mentoring Connecting Completing”

Meridian Community College (MCC) selected relational advising as the focus of its second Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) through a comprehensive review and analysis of institutional research and stakeholder input. This analysis revealed the need to improve the following student success measures - completion and retention rates.

Relational advising has been proven to improve student success, and it closely aligns with the College’s strategic plan initiatives that include: (1) adopting best practices designed to help our students meet their educational goals; (2) creating processes that are engaging, streamlined, and student-friendly; and (3) providing opportunities that engage our students intellectually, emotionally, socially, physically, and creatively.

The QEP entitled *Mentoring Connecting Completing* focuses on increasing graduation rates and increasing retention rates. The QEP is designed with the following outcomes in mind:

Program Outcomes:

1. Increase graduation rates of first-time, full-time students
2. Increase retention rates of first-time, full-time students

Desired Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Eighty percent of all first-time students will attend two advising meetings per semester.
2. Ninety percent of students enrolled in LLS 1312 Orientation course will create an educational plan using Degree Works software.
3. Ninety percent of students enrolled in LLS 1312 Orientation course will demonstrate an understanding of academic policies by scoring 80% or above on the academics policies quiz.

MCC’s QEP will provide support to all first-time students by connecting them with a full-time staff advisor who will serve as a mentor rather than a “schedule maker.” This mentor/advisor will guide the student in making wise selections of course offerings with careful attention to institutional policies and degree requirements. In addition, effective advising will also assist students in identifying available internal and external resources to improve their MCC experience. Considering each student as a unique individual with unique needs is recognized as the foundation of MCC’s new model for advising. This QEP will equip students with the information and resources they need to successfully complete their education at Meridian Community College or transfer to a four-year institution, thus enabling MCC to accomplish its mission of “improving the quality of life of our local and global communities” (MCC Catalog).

A relational advising model supports MCC’s mission, our strategic plan, and our desire to improve student success. With the implementation of the QEP, MCC expects relationships to enhance the student experience and further the mission to improve the quality of life of our local and global communities by serving their diverse needs. For more information on the QEP, please contact Stacy Parkes, QEP and Assessments Coordinator, at 601-581-3580 or sparkes@meridiancc.edu.