

Executive SUMMARY

North Central Texas College's (NCTC) Quality Enhancement Plan, *Aspire to be Hired*, focuses on students' employability skill development through evidence-based training modules embedded into the course curriculum and structured support opportunities. The program promotes students' marketability and preparedness by 1) building their awareness of the importance and impact of employability skills, 2) improving their ability to articulate these skill sets, and 3) offering opportunities to apply professional skills and knowledge. **The overarching goal of NCTC's QEP *Aspire to be Hired* is to remove barriers and reduce the skills gap to improve students' long-term employability.**

NCTC's QEP promotes students' employability and professional skills through embedded instruction in students' courses and in co-curricular activities. *Aspire to be Hired* also addresses gaps in awareness and articulation of employability skills and the practical experience of skill application.

NCTC's QEP Program Outcomes are as follows:

Program Outcome 1

Awareness of Employability Skills

QEP participants will exhibit an increased awareness of employability skills.

Program Outcome 2

Articulation of Employability Skills

QEP participants will demonstrate the ability to describe and discuss the identified employability skill related to a work environment.

Program Outcome 3

Application of Employability Skills

QEP participants will be provided opportunities to apply the identified employability skill/knowledge.

NCTC's QEP Student Learning Outcomes are as follows:

Student Learning Outcome 1

Students in QEP courses will identify employability skills and their importance to industry and self.

Student Learning Outcome 2

Students in QEP courses will describe and discuss the identified employability skill related to a work environment.

Student Learning Outcome 3

Students in QEP courses will apply the identified employability skill/knowledge.

Aspire to be Hired was piloted in the Summer 2021 in courses within the departments of Industrial and Engineering Technology, Public Administration and Management, Computer Information Technology, and Human Services and Hospitality, with a full scale launch in the Fall of 2021 that will continue into additional CTE programs through 2026.