



University of Pikeville Quality Enhancement Plan Executive Summary
PEAK Career and Leadership Pathway

The University of Pikeville's *PEAK Career and Leadership Pathway* is a comprehensive pathway program designed to allow students the opportunity to explore career options and gain leadership experience throughout their time on campus, culminating in an increase in job and leadership preparedness at graduation. *PEAK* is an acronym for Professional Exploration and Knowledge.

The *PEAK Career and Leadership Pathway* aligns with the broad strategic goal of "intentionally creating a variety of pathways that empower students to explore career, vocation, and leadership" by supporting two of its objectives related to student success. Objectives for the goal include the creation of a center for vocation, calling, and career exploration and the creation of numerous opportunities to take on increasing levels of leadership at the University and in the community. The Career and Professional Development Center was established in 2020 and will lead the efforts for the QEP in alignment with the strategic goal.

PEAK utilizes resources available through the University's Center for Career and Professional Development office to expand access to career exploration and skill development, allowing students to build an individualized pathway with expanded opportunities for leadership and service.

PEAK Career and Leadership Pathway employs the University's new tagline, "Moving Mountains" to create the image of reaching the pinnacle of achievement. *PEAK* is a comprehensive program designed to develop and expand vocation and leadership skills through every year of matriculation.

The *PEAK Career and Leadership Pathway* will empower students to:

- Take personal responsibility in their career development and management by being active participants in the *PEAK* program;
- Reflect on and articulate their leadership potential; and
- Demonstrate an understanding of a professional identity founded in leadership development skills.

The University has committed sufficient resources to support curricular and co-curricular activities related to this QEP. A director will be appointed to collaborate with faculty, staff, and community members to increase the number of activities for *PEAK* as well as to increase the number of students who participate.

The University is confident *PEAK* will increase career and leadership preparedness in participating students and serve our mission to prepare students for the future while creating intellectual, cultural, and economic opportunities for Appalachia.

University of Pikeville

QEP: Peak Career and Leadership Pathway

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