



QEP Title: Course to Career

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Forsyth Technical Community College (Forsyth Tech) is a catalyst for equitable economic mobility, empowering lives and transforming communities. To realize this vision, Forsyth Tech has chosen Course to Career as our proposed Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP). In alignment and in support of our strategic plan, Vision 2025, the QEP will improve career awareness of students, utilize technology for career exploration and preparation, increase faculty career mentoring, and embed career competencies into coursework to increase student preparation for the workplace. Course to Career will enable students to create informed career plans early, integrate career guidance and key competencies into academic coursework, improve faculty career mentoring, and address equitable outcomes for underrepresented minority students. It is expected to have a significant impact on student retention and completion as students will have increased understanding related to how their academic pathways lead to their chosen career. As a guiding framework Course to Career addresses career exploration and planning early on in enrollment for first-time students; Provides increased technology support to allow students to explore career options virtually; Embeds career preparation based on National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) competencies in key courses; and gives students wraparound guidance through faculty mentors and Student Care Teams to keep students on their career path to success.

Course to Career Goals and Student Success Outcomes

Goal 1: Start first-time students on the appropriate educational path through proactive career and academic advising. (Supports Vision 2025 Strategic Plan Pillar I)

- **SSO 1.1:** Students will develop an academic and career plan to guide their individual goals upon onboarding

Goal 2: Use engagement, skill building and experiential learning to prepare students to enter the workforce or continue their career path to another institution. (Supports Vision 2025 Strategic Plan Pillar IV)

- **SSO 2.1:** Students will build skills based on the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) competencies for career readiness through applied and/or experiential activities, workshops, and coursework

Goal 3: Provide continuous student support toward timely completion and career goals along students' educational pathway. (Supports Vision 2025 Strategic Plan Pillar II and Pillar III)

- **SSO 3.1:** Students will have increased academic and career pathway success through faculty mentoring experiences and other systematic support services

Driven by the Course to Career implementation team with oversight from Executive leadership, Forsyth Tech will use a variety of metrics to systematically track goals, with room to evolve during implementation as needed. Assessment of Course to Career will include disaggregation of student performance data and other institutional data to gauge progress in achieving outcomes and specifically assess the impact of the QEP on reducing achievement gaps. The success of the plan will be a result of annual review and continuous improvement throughout the five-year implementation.