

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) for Tarrant County College (TCC) is to improve the percentage of college-ready First Time In College students (FTIC) who are TSI-liable in one or more developmental areas (reading, writing, or math) within the first year of college. This will be demonstrated by student achievement in increased percentages of FTIC students exhibiting success in reaching college readiness, as reflected by Texas Success Initiative (TSI) scores. Another focus is increasing FTIC retention by providing registration assistance during the first semester.

The QEP's focus on student success required support from a steering committee with four workgroups. These workgroups conducted polls and worked to narrow the perception of topics for improvement in community college education. In May 2022, student success emerged as the most critical area of focus for improving undergraduate education. **This focus on student success, validated with college data, student focus groups, and faculty interviews, is integral to the QEP idea that emerged, titled QEP: RECHARGE.**

Institutional data showed student variables that predict success in accomplishing compliance with TSI mandates and increasing student retention. The results from Fall 2021 data reflected that 68% of first-time college students enter TSI liable or not college-ready in one or more areas (reading, writing, or mathematics). Recent STARR (State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness) testing for Metroplex Region 11 showed significant declines in college readiness due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

QEP forums were held across the college during spring 2022 and spring 2023. Each presentation provided an overview of the requirements for designing a QEP and allowed stakeholders to share their input and feedback during the presentation sessions. Community input assisted in designing a student success-focused QEP.

QEP: RECHARGE has four strategies developed to effect a cultural change on campus. This will lead to more students embracing academic benchmarks and adopting the value of achieving early academic planning as both an educational and lifelong culture enhancement, increasing the likelihood of graduating and meeting other lifelong goals. The four strategies of initiatives include:

- Collaboration with Student Affairs through Faculty Mentoring
- TSI Intervention through Pre-orientation Workshops
- New Student Trailblazer Orientation-Faculty Panels
- STSC-0111 Course with Career Pathway Presentations

These initial strategies are designed to meet FTIC students at the start of the onboarding process. Achieving this ambitious initiative will take cooperation and coordination across the college. **QEP: RECHARGE** will transform the institutional culture by removing barriers to degree completion, connecting academics and services, and enabling the TCC to achieve its mission by improving the percentage of college-ready FTIC students who are TSI-liable and enrolled in STSC-0111 Transition to College courses in their first year of college.

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