



# Durham Technical Community College Quality Enhancement Plan Overview

## What is a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)?

A QEP is a college-wide project that focuses on an issue the institution considers to be important to improving student learning outcomes and/or student success.

The QEP is an integral part of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) reaffirmation of accreditation process.

## How is a QEP topic selected?

QEPs emerge through an institution's ongoing comprehensive planning and evaluation processes. Overall, there are five key elements of a QEP.

### 5 Essentials of a QEP:

- 1) Arises from institutional data, mission and values, and the strategic plan
- 2) Has broad-based support from stakeholders
- 3) Focuses on improving specific student learning outcomes and/or student success
- 4) Commits resources to initiate, implement, and complete the QEP
- 5) Has clear assessment measures

## Brainstorming QEP Topics

There are several ways to brainstorm potential QEP topics, such as:

- Reviewing institutional data
- Reviewing Durham Tech's Vision, Mission, and Core Values
- Reviewing Durham Tech's Strategic Plan
- Reviewing literary sources of higher education news and information
- Reviewing QEP examples from other institutions
- Reviewing prior institutional QEP topics

## QEP TOPIC SELECTION TIMELINE



SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER 2024

Engage stakeholders to gather feedback and ideas.



DECEMBER 2024 - JANUARY 2025

Identify emerging themes to narrow proposed ideas.



FEBRUARY - APRIL 2025

Share emerging concepts and gather additional stakeholder input to reach topic identification and consensus.



MAY - JUNE 2025

Transition to the Topic Development Taskforce.

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## QEP Topic Examples

[2024 Track A QEP Summaries](#) (SACSCOC Website)

[2023 Track A QEP Summaries](#) (SACSCOC Website)

### Durham Tech QEPs

2006: Speak Well/Work Well/Write Well | 2016: P3 Connect: Plan, Prepare, Proceed

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## Key Terms

**Impact Report for the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)**—Demonstrates the extent to which the QEP has affected outcomes related to student learning and/or student success. It is submitted as part of the Fifth-Year Interim Report five years prior to an institution’s reaffirmation review.

**Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)**—A carefully designed and focused course of action derived from the institution’s existing planning and evaluation processes that addresses a well-defined issue directly related to enhancing specific student learning outcomes and/or student success. (Standard 7.2)

**Reaffirmation of Accreditation**—The process for ensuring that member institutions maintain continuing compliance with SACSCOC policies and with the Principles of Accreditation. An institution’s accreditation must be reaffirmed five years after it gains initial accreditation and every ten years thereafter.

**Student Learning**—Defined broadly as enhancing student knowledge, skills, behaviors, and/or values.

**Student Success**—Defined broadly as improvements in key student outcomes such as student retention, completion, time-to-degree, placement in field, or performance in “gatekeeper” courses.

**The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)**—An institutional accreditor for quality assurance in higher education.

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## Get Involved

### We want to hear from you!

Share your thoughts and ideas through the anonymous Durham Technical Community College QEP Topic Selection Survey. Copy the plain text link into your browser or scan the QR code with your phone.

### Plain text survey link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/fD62Em7cFN>

