

What is SACSCOC and what is accreditation?

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) is, as defined by SACSCOC, “an institutional accreditor for quality assurance in higher education. SACSCOC accredits institutions that award associate, baccalaureate, master’s, or doctoral degrees, including those offered via distance and correspondence education, and direct assessment within these institutions.” Holmes Community College is accredited by the SACSCOC to award associate degrees and certificates. SACSCOC explains that “accreditation seeks to ensure constituents and the public that the quality and integrity of higher educational institutions meet acceptable levels of quality.”

What is a QEP?

The Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) is an important part of the SACSCOC reaffirmation of accreditation process for the college. Each institution that is reaffirming its accreditation is required to develop a five-year plan defined by SACSCOC as a “carefully designed course of action that addresses a well-defined and focused topic or issue related to enhancing student learning and/or student success.” QEP development is a school-wide effort with broad-based support from the college’s stakeholders.

What does our QEP address?

As the value of a college degree faces growing scrutiny, Career Compass aims to guide undecided students toward selecting an academic or career program of study through its interventions. By doing so, it enhances their likelihood of graduating and successfully transitioning into the workforce or higher education.

Who is our QEP’s target audience (cohort)?

While the actions and benefits of Career Compass will be available to all students, those who begin the fall semester with General College Studies as their program of study and have not yet completed courses incorporating the QEP initiatives (English Composition I and Career Exploration) will be the initial target audience.

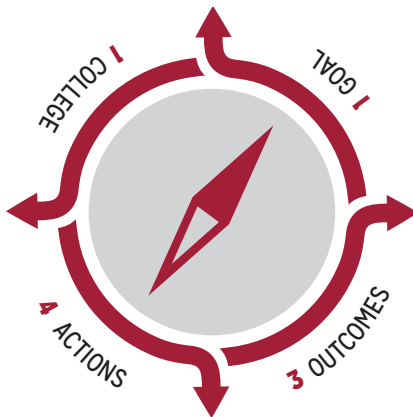
How will the QEP be assessed?

Using institutional research and current baseline data, measurable student learning outcomes were developed along with appropriate assessment tools (reports, surveys, and advising questions) to measure the progress of Career Compass. As the QEP evolves over the next five years, specific cohorts, strategies, and measurements may be modified.

Goal: Career Compass will help undecided (General College Studies) students select their academic or career program of study, increasing their probability of graduation, entry into the workforce, or university transfer.

How will we achieve the goal?

With faculty and staff investment across the college, four actions will be implemented to meet the student learning outcomes, and thus, the overall goal.



Outcomes GENERAL COLLEGE STUDIES STUDENTS WILL:

1. Report increased confidence and clarity in the academic and/or career path they want to pursue.
2. Indicate increased knowledge & awareness of attainable career paths.
3. Make contact with local businesses that may impact their academic and/or career choice.

Actions HOLMES WILL OFFER:

1 Career Profiles Assignment in English Composition I (ENG 1113)

2 Career Exploration Course (LLS 1321)

3 Career Exploration Seminars

4 Advisor Training

holmescc.edu/careercompass

HOLMES COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Quality Enhancement Plan
Frequently Asked Questions