Texas A&M University
Quality Enhancement Plan
SACSCOC Decennial Accreditation Review and the QEP

Two essential components:

1. Compliance Certification
2. Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)
Compliance Certification

Demonstrate Compliance on 75 “Standards”

- Administrative Structure and Governance
- Adherence to Policies and Procedures
- Faculty and Faculty Governance
- Academic and Student Support
- Facilities and Infrastructure
- Assessment Practices
- Student Achievement
- Financial Stability
Essential Elements of the QEP

- Topic identified through ongoing, comprehensive planning and evaluation processes
- Broad-based support from among institutional constituencies
- Focused on improving specific student learning outcomes and/or student success
- Sufficient resources to support the QEP
- Clearly defined strategies to assess achievement
Texas A&M University Quality Enhancement Plan

AGGIE FIRSTS: A Culture of Excellence
The focus of the QEP is to enhance student success outcomes for first-generation Aggies.

Focal initiatives will be those designed to strengthen academic achievement, academic engagement, social engagement, and sense of belonging.
Why AGGIE FIRSTS?
Increasing retention and graduation rates advances the University’s Strategic Plan and related goals of the university-wide Student Success Initiative.
13,263 first-generation students in fall 2020

23.6% of undergraduates are first-gen
Student Success represents the desired outcomes for student experiences including:

1. Academic Achievement
2. Academic Engagement
3. Social Engagement
4. Sense of Belonging
The culmination of academic experiences.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Progress</th>
<th>Professional Skills</th>
<th>Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Retention</th>
<th>Graduation</th>
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</thead>
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**Academic Achievement**
Academic Engagement

| Expected Task Behavior | Proactive Task Behavior | Educational Experiences |

Participation in learning activities that promote academic achievement.
### Social Engagement

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<tr>
<th>Connection</th>
<th>Meaningful Relationships</th>
<th>Non-Academic Context</th>
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Participation in social activities that strengthen connection.
### Sense of Belonging

| Feelings of Attachment, Usefulness, Value, and Support | Willingness to get involved | Positive relationships |

Ability to authentically engage resulting in feelings of inclusion.
Institutional Outcomes

Increase:

- First-year retention rates from 91% to 95%
- Four-year graduation rates from 53% to 65%
- Six-year graduation rates 74% to 85%
Students Will:

- Utilize campus academic resources and student support services.
- Engage in second year High Impact Learning Experiences.
- Demonstrate higher levels of academic engagement.
- Demonstrate higher levels of social engagement.
- Develop a greater sense of belonging.
Example Initiatives