



Limestone College

1115 College Drive, Gaffney, SC 29340

Date: Monday, February 17, 2020

To: Commission Staff

From: Limestone College

Re: Quality Enhancement Plan

Title of Quality Enhancement Plan: Saints GPS (Growth, Professionalism, and Strategy)

Institution: Limestone college

Names of individual to be contacted regarding it development or implementation:

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Executive Summary

The ultimate goal of any higher education institution is to have graduates who become successful in their life after college. In order to be successful, students must have positive experiences in their academic and social lives while enrolled. Limestone has as part of its mission to provide educational opportunities for students who might not otherwise have access. This mission comes with unique challenges regarding services and experiences students need to be successful.

At Limestone College, we are Saints. Our QEP, Saints GPS: Growth, Professionalism, and Strategy provides a comprehensive, three-strand plan to help our newest students become successful as they matriculate through their career at Limestone and beyond. Saints GPS was chosen as the QEP through broad-based campus conversations among faculty, staff, students, alumni, and trustees, strategic planning, and data gathered from the NSSE and graduate surveys.

Growth: Emotional Intelligence (soft skills) includes abilities such as persistence, adaptability, self-discipline, self-control, focus, confidence, resiliency, teamwork and collaboration, organization, time-management, conflict-resolution, seeking help and staying on task. Students will be taught these skills in freshman-level courses with the deliverable being an e-portfolio to document growth in academic and social life. The ultimate goal of improving retention and graduation rates is expected as a result of fostering emotional intelligence.

Professionalism- Conduct and Communication: Professional conduct will address concepts such as professional dress and etiquette and include ethical standards necessary for employment or higher education, such as honesty, integrity, and accountability. Professional Communication to be addressed will include conversational skills, professional correspondence, and effective professional presentations. Professional Communication will address business writing and appropriate use of social media. It will also help students master the basic technology skills as well as technology required for their area of study. The Conduct and Communication surveys, Sophomore Readiness survey, social conduct monitoring, and a resume review will be the evidence of growth for this strand.

Strategy- Intentional Connections: Limestone students will understand how their various classes are connected to each other and how the experiences they have outside the classroom are related to the things they do inside of the classroom through the development of an Action Plan. Through engagement in high-impact practices like internships, research with faculty, service learning, study abroad, and through work-study jobs or part-time employment, students will be able to plot their course for successful completion of their degree and entry into employment and/or graduate school.