# Improving Career Readiness through Student Engagement

Ashland Community and Technical College Ashland, Kentucky

### **QEP** Mission Statement

ACTC's QEP will improve student career readiness through student engagement in the following areas: career research, active and collaborative learning opportunities in the classroom, and career/soft skills practice.

# **QEP Goal**

The goal of ACTC's QEP is "Students will develop career knowledge and demonstrate enhancement of workplace skills". This goal is supported by two Student Learner Outcomes:

- 1. Students will identify and summarize knowledge of their chosen career path.
- 2. Students will recognize and demonstrate career/soft skills.

### Summary

ACTC's QEP will provide students with opportunities to develop and improve their career readiness in three key areas over the course of their programs: career research, in-class active and collaborative learning activities, and career focused activities. The career research will take place in ENG 101 (basic composition), a required course for all Associate in Arts, Associate in Science, and Associate in Applied Science degrees. While there are many important career and soft skills students need for employment success, the specific career/soft skills targeted in this QEP are collaboration and communication. As part of the QEP, active and collaborative learning will be measured in targeted redesigned courses across the curriculum, including (but not limited to) biology, math, and sociology. The career focused activities will include feedback on resumes and cover letters, mock interviews, and internship-like experiences. Opportunities to practice career focused activities will differ for students due to the varied nature of program requirements. The combination of research, soft skills practice, and career focused activities will increase ACTC students' career readiness.

# **QEP** Contact

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