

Executive Summary

The Command Your Career Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) 2025-2030 at Louisiana State University of Alexandria (LSUA) is a strategic initiative to enhance students' career readiness and professional success. This program provides a comprehensive framework that integrates academic programs, student support resources, and mentorship opportunities. This holistic approach seeks to enrich students' learning experiences and equip them with the necessary competencies to thrive in their future careers. The Command Your Career initiative is dedicated to fostering an environment where career readiness is embedded in the fabric of the educational journey, preparing students for a successful transition from the classroom to the professional world and purposeful careers.

Mission: Students will develop a comprehensive set of career-readiness competencies critical for effective performance in the modern workforce.

The Command Your Career program involves four distinct campaigns with specific goals.

Campaign 1 - Explore: Students will explore various career paths, assess their interests and abilities, and demonstrate engagement with university activities.

Campaign 2—Develop: Students will develop key durable career skills and engage in university leadership opportunities.

Campaign 3 – Experience: Students will engage in experimental learning, develop mentor relationships, and apply academic learning to career-related experiences.

Campaign 4 – Arrive: Students will reflect on their experiences and readiness for the professional world.

Resource Commitment: LSUA recognizes that the successful implementation of the QEP requires financial resources, personnel, technological support, and comprehensive institutional commitment. The full-time Command Your Career Coordinator will ensure day-to-day management and coordination, bringing together existing resources and stakeholders to develop, implement, and assess the program. Existing resources include the First Year Experience course and staff, the LSUA Career Center, and the Center for Engaged Teaching and Learning, which hosts the faculty Career Champions Institute.

Measuring Effectiveness: Criteria for measuring the success of the Command Your Career program include three overarching outcomes based on student completion of the career-readiness campaigns, growth in critical college experience indicators, and job or graduate school placement. To measure effectiveness of the strategies, the Command Your Career team has developed assessment measurement tools (STAR Assessments) that engage students in self-reflection and measure growth in career-readiness confidence. This assessment is focused on student development of four key competencies for career-readiness: self-assessment, durable skill development, leadership and engagement, and career networking. Other means of assessment include common Command Your Career rubrics for durable skill development and the exit interview/project, developed through collaboration with program faculty. Regular formative assessment items included in the STAR assessment tool will allow the Command Your Career leadership team to adjust as needed to ensure the project's success.

LSU of Alexandria is committed to ensuring that our graduates are career ready and confident, providing the relationships, support, and experiences that are critical for their long-term success. Command Your Career maps out the strategic framework to connect students to the competencies needed to command their careers. Let's get to work!