



## HLC Quality Initiative FAQ 2022-2024

1. What is UNC's HLC Quality Initiative?

UNC's Quality Initiative seeks to examine and improve students' academic experience, with a specific focus on identifying barriers to academic success, improving curricular design, expanding inclusive and high impact pedagogy across the university, and increasing student sense of belonging and connection to their academic major and college.

2. What is the intended impact of UNC's HLC Quality Initiative?

- Address historical challenges that have hampered previous strategic initiatives from achieving the intended goals;
- Identify concrete strategies for operationalizing the [Rowing, Not Drifting](#) Students First goals across colleges and academic programs; and
- Increase student success outcomes, including eliminating equity gaps that occur at the course, major, and cohort levels.

3. What strategies will support UNC's HLC Quality Initiative?

- Coordination with existing university committees, including Student Success Committees in each of the five colleges and the Liberal Arts Council;
- Appointment of ad hoc task forces focused on strategies for targeted populations (e.g., ELL/CLD task force, transfer student task force);
- Dissemination and increased use of institutional data, including new dashboards examining student success and equity gaps at the course, program, college, and institutional levels;
- Improvement project grants to fund promising practices in the colleges and improve student outcomes in general education courses; and
- Self-study, evaluation, and prioritization for long-term investment in high impact practices.

4. What is the timeline for UNC's HLC Quality Initiative?

UNC's HLC Quality Initiative is being implemented in three phases.

- Phase 1 (Spring/Summer 2022) Planning to Launch
  - Retention Summit
  - Special populations task forces: (1) English Language Learning and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (ELL/CLD) Students and (2) Transfer Students
  - Call for proposals: (1) Student Success Projects in the Colleges and (2) LAC Improvement Projects
- Phase 2: Implementation
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Retention Summit
  - Select, fund, and implement college and LAC improvement grants (FY23 and FY24)
  - Establish Transfer/Transition Center
  - Implement ELL/CLD Task Force recommendations
  - Collect and analyze formative assessment data

- Phase 3: Evaluation and Recommendations
  - Collect and analyze data for summative evaluation
  - Recommend promising practices for future investment based on improvement project results
  - Submit report on outcomes to HLC
- 5. Where can I find additional information about UNC's HLC Quality Initiative?  
Contact Dr. Kim Black, Assistant Provost for Academic Effectiveness and HLC Accreditation Liaison Officer at (970) 351-1102 or [kim.black@unco.edu](mailto:kim.black@unco.edu).