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A Project by The National Council for Agricultural Education

NATIONAL QUALITY PROGRAM STANDARDS FOR AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND NATURAL RESOURCE EDUCATION

A TOOL FOR SECONDARY (GRADES 9-12) PROGRAMS

Building a Growth Plan

NQPS Survey Tool Instructions

In this guide: Step-by-step instructions and best practices for creating a growth plan based on your survey results.

Last Revised 05/15/17

Select up to 10 QIs to consider

National Quality Program Standards Survey

[Dashboard](#)

Growth Plan

This guide is designed to help a local program identify, prioritize and organize growth targets into a manageable plan. The process will result in a realistic and clear set of action items for growth. Program leadership is encouraged to involve their advisory committee and other key stakeholders in completing this analysis and plan.

Step 1: Review your current level of performance for each quality indicator using the tables below.

Step 2: Review your program's current scores for each quality indicator and SELECT indicators where your program is: Not at or Approaching Expectation - these are areas for growth to ensure your program is meeting expectations Meets Expectation or above - these are areas to build upon the good foundation you've already established

Number of remaining opening spots for ranking: 8

Standard 1A: Program Design and Instruction – Curriculum and Program Design

A standards-based curriculum in agriculture, food, and natural resource education is delivered through programs of study that incorporates classroom and laboratory instruction; experiential, project, and work based learning through SAE and leadership and personal development through FFA.

QUALITY INDICATORS	LEVEL OF PERFORMANCE	INDICATOR TO IMPROVE
Program of Study (POS), reflecting the needs of the community, has been developed in accordance with state requirements.	1	<input type="button" value="Add"/>
The courses in the Program of Study (POS) are organized logically and sequentially from introductory to advanced levels.		NA
The technical content is aligned with core academic content standards.		NA
The Program of Study (POS) allows students to gain post-secondary education credits through dual or concurrent enrollment programs or other means.		NA
Each Program of Study (POS) includes knowledge and skill development through a balance of the three components of agriculture, food, and natural resource education, as listed below. Classroom and laboratory instruction. Experiential, project, and work-based learning through SAE. Leadership and personal development through FFA		NA

Standard 1B: PROGRAM DESIGN & INSTRUCTION – INSTRUCTION

Programs promote academic achievement and technical skill attainment of all students.

QUALITY INDICATORS	LEVEL OF PERFORMANCE	INDICATOR TO IMPROVE
Classroom and laboratory instruction integrates and/or is supplemented by experiential, project, and work based learning through SAE and leadership and personal development through FFA.		NA

Next Step (Ranking)

After you complete at least one survey you can begin to build a growth plan.

- (1) Select **Add** for up to 10 indicators to consider including in your growth plan.
- (2) If a quality indicator is not rated it will be **highlighted in yellow**, you may return to edit the survey if you want to consider it for the growth plan.
- (3) After picking indicators, select **Next Step (Ranking)** to continue.

Tips for Success:

- You may only select up to 10 indicators at this stage. You will prioritize these indicators to select three to focus on in the next step.
- As you select indicators for your growth plan, be sure to consider including areas where the program excels as well as areas for improvement.
- Engage your local advisory committee and other stakeholders in this process! Print your results on this page and engage them in selecting 10 to consider for the growth plan.

Prioritize and Pick Three

Dashboard / Quality Indicators

Quality Indicator Plan Selection

Step 3: The goal of this exercise is to prioritize areas to include in a growth plan.

- Which indicators are most urgent to address to ensure near-term viability of your program?
- Which indicators are most important to address to ensure your program meets student, school, community, and workforce needs in the long-term?

Number of remaining opening spots in growth plan: 0

Quality Indicator	Action
The technical content is aligned with core academic content standards.	Add
SAE is an integral component of the agriculture, food, and natural resource education program, with all students maintaining an Exploratory SAE and Career Plan of Study.	Add
SAE programs are student-planned and based on their Career Plan of Study.	Add
Training and evaluation are in place so individuals using the facility create a safe working environment.	Add
An inventory of equipment, tools, consumable items, and instructional technology is completed and includes a plan for new purchases and replacements.	Remove
The quantity of tools, equipment, and consumable supplies are adequate for equipping all students enrolled at all times.	Add
Student growth is continually evaluated as it relates to their experiential, project, and work-based learning program through SAE.	Add
FA members are involved in the planning and implementation of a Program of Activities (POA).	Add
A strategic marketing effort is in place with pieces being implemented by the appropriate key stakeholders.	Add
Teacher(s) contributes to the technical and pedagogical (instructional) knowledge base of the profession.	Add
An agriculture, food, and natural resource program budget is in place and provides the financial resources to support the current and planned needs of the program.	Add

Build Growth Plan

Work with local stakeholder groups to prioritize the selected indicators based on urgency and importance to your program's long-term vision, mission, and goals.

- (1) Select the 3 highest priority indicators to **Add** to the growth plan for this year.
- (2) You may **Remove** previously added indicators from your growth plan.
- (3) Select **Build Growth Plan** to continue.

Tips for Success:

- You may only select up to 3 indicators to include in the growth plan for the year.
- Be realistic! You'll risk making progress by trying to accomplish everything.
- Engage your local advisory committee and other stakeholders in this process! Print your list of 10 and engage them in selecting 3 to include in the growth plan.

Build a Growth Plan

Dashboard / Quality Indicators / Quality Indicator Plan Selection

Survey Growth Plan

Step 4: Complete an action plan for your selected quality indicators.

SELECTED QUALITY INDICATORS FOR GROWTH PLAN

Standard 1A: Program Design and Instruction – Curriculum and Program Design

Quality Indicator - The courses in the Program of Study (POS) are organized logically and sequentially from introductory to advanced levels.

Your Program Current Evidence

We have a program curriculum that shows the progression of courses from introductory to more advanced levels. Saved in Dropbox: Program/Curriculum/Curriculum Map

Suggested Next Step

- Utilize samples from CTE's "Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources" list to organize courses.
- Organize courses sequentially and align to "CASE Pathways" on the Curriculum for Agricultural Sciences Education (CASE) webpage. Align courses in POS to The Council's "National AFNR Content Standards." Work with post-secondary institutions and local guidance staff to align program standards found on the National FFA webpage.

CURRENT SCORE (1-5)	TARGET SCORE (1-5)	ACTION ITEMS OWNER	EVIDENCE NEEDED TO ACHIEVE TARGET SCORE
3 - Meets Expectation	4 - Exceeds Expectation	D. Clark	Add course descriptions, objectives, and pre-requisites to the current curriculum map. Note related AFNR content standards for each course using standards document from The Council for Agricultural Education.

Target Score Rank Action(s)

Logically and sequentially organized POS include course descriptions, objectives, prerequisites, and are aligned to AFNR Content Standards.

Action items within the next 30 days.

Pull course descriptions and objectives from existing syllabi into curriculum map document and reformat as necessary.

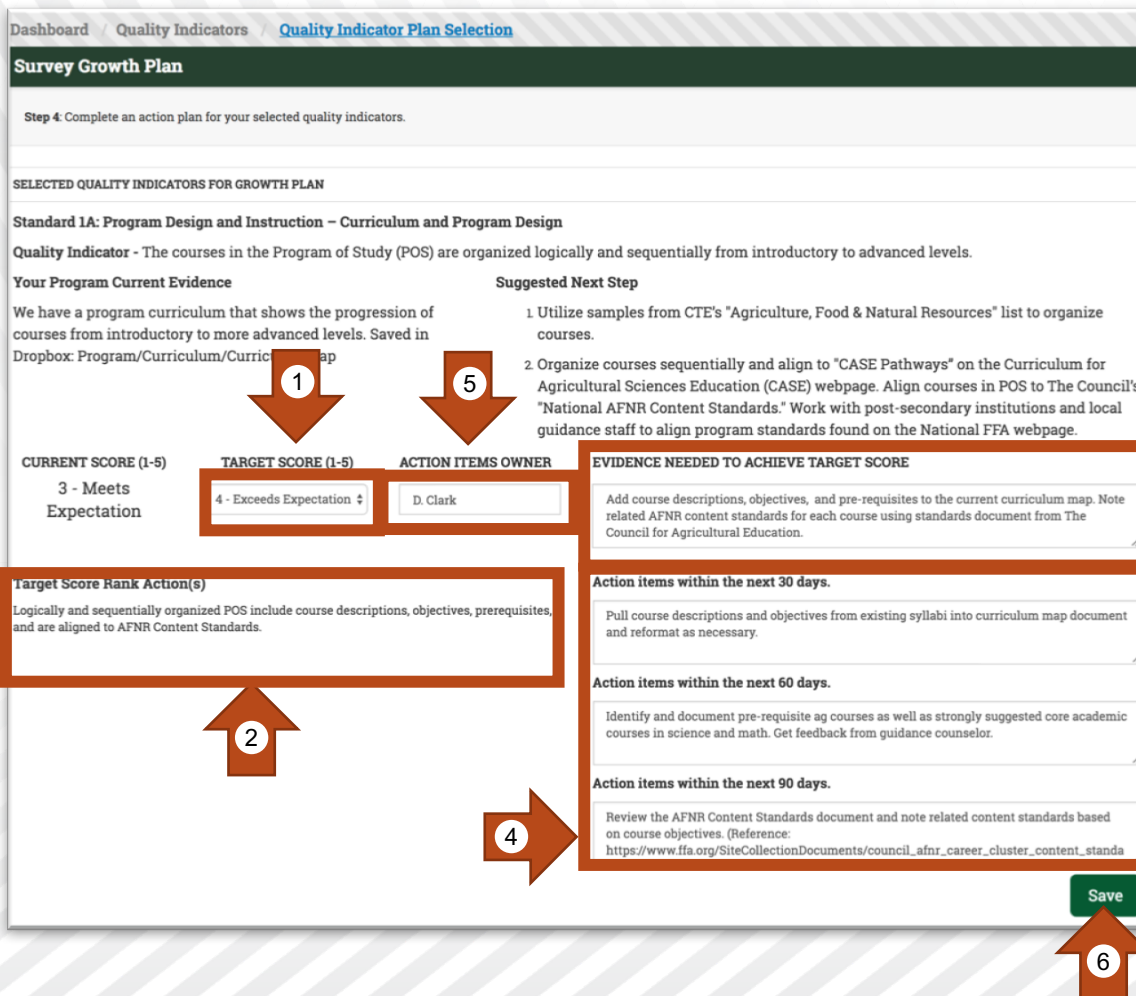
Action items within the next 60 days.

Identify and document pre-requisite ag courses as well as strongly suggested core academic courses in science and math. Get feedback from guidance counselor.

Action items within the next 90 days.

Review the AFNR Content Standards document and note related content standards based on course objectives. (Reference: https://www.ffa.org/SiteCollectionDocuments/council_afnr_career_cluster_content_standards)

Save



Create an action plan for each selected QI.

- (1) Identify a **target score** for the selected indicator.
- (2) Review the **rubric description and suggested evidence** for the selected target score. HINT! Change the target score to review the related descriptors.
- (3) Briefly describe the **evidence you** plan to create to achieve the target score.
- (4) List the **action items** to accomplish in each timeframe to ensure success. HINT! Be sure to check out the **Suggested Next Step** section for some suggested action items to add.
- (5) Name an **owner** for each action item.
- (6) Make sure to **save** and then repeat for the other indicators.

Tips for Success:

- Your action plan will NOT be submitted to your state leader. Make sure to save and/or print a copy to share with them during an upcoming program visit.
- Remember to engage members of your advisory committee, students, parents and other supporters in owning and accomplishing the plan of action. You're not alone!

Summary of Best Practices

Be realistic

- You won't be able to tackle every growth opportunity in one year, stay focused on a few
- Consider your busiest times of the year when identifying an action plan

Soar with your strengths

- Remember that your growth plan can include areas of strength that you want to build upon

Make time to make it happen

- Sync up the action items with your personal organization system
- Coordinate with your teaching partners to meet and review progress regularly

Engage stakeholders

- Ask stakeholders for help with prioritizing the quality indicators to add to your growth plan
- Share your plan with stakeholders for input and ask for their help with certain action items
- Review progress with your advisory committee and other stakeholders on a regular basis