

UAB creates Alabama Performance Excellence Program for business, engineering, healthcare professionals

By Adam Pope UAB News

The [University of Alabama at Birmingham's schools of Health Professions, Engineering and Collat School of Business](#) have teamed up to create the Alabama Performance Excellence Program (ALPEX) to promote economic development and organizational excellence.

The program will facilitate increased productivity in organizations and advocate for practitioners utilizing the Baldrige Framework for Performance Excellence. ALPEX will also encourage organizational excellence by working with companies and organizations to help them become more competitive.



A one-day orientation program for interested organizations will be conducted at the UAB School of Health Professions Executive Learning Center on Friday, April 28. To register for the orientation, visit the [official event page](#).

The deans of the UAB schools of Health Professions, Business and Engineering will join the ALPEX Board of Directors from organizations around the state to provide guidance and support to the program. The [UAB Center for Healthcare Management and Leadership](#), in the School of Health Professions, will provide logistical support for the educational activities.

"For the past six years, there has been no unified program like this in Alabama," said J.M. "Mickey" Trimm, Ph.D., director of the Center for Healthcare Management and Leadership. "We are trying to create a pipeline of excellence for hospitals, manufacturing, other businesses, schools and nonprofit organizations in our state, leading to more competitiveness and economic development through stronger, more efficient organizations."

According to Trimm, organizations that improve their processes are recognized for their efforts with state-level awards and may decide to pursue the coveted Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award.

"The true value of this program is the increased performance of the organizations, but the awards provide additional impetus and recognition for a job well-done," Trimm said. "No matter the organization's size or industry, the Baldrige Excellence Criteria will allow an organization to achieve its vision, reach its goals, improve results and become more competitive."

Serving on the Board are: Charlie Blass, chair, retired director, Teledyne Brown Engineering, Huntsville; Iwan D. Alexander, Ph.D., dean, UAB School of Engineering, Birmingham; Hilary Claybourne, UAH professor and consultant, Huntsville; Linda Coogan, CEO, AlaQuest, Birmingham; Dr. Jane Finley, professor, Business School, University of Mobile; Jerry Holmes, director of Quality, L.B. Foster, Birmingham; Eric Jack, Ph.D., dean, UAB Collat School of Business, Birmingham; Harold Jones, Ph.D., dean, UAB School of Health Professions, Birmingham; Chris Schmidt, CEO, Schmidt Wallace Healthcare Management Co., Inc., Montgomery; Dr. Wes Smith, CEO, Alabama Quality Assurance Foundation (AQAF), Birmingham; Dr. Mark Williams, chief physician executive, Tenet Healthcare, Birmingham; Alana Moore Wolfe, director of Quality, Sunrise Senior Living, Talladega, ; Ex-Officio: Linda Vincent, executive director, Tuscaloosa; and Dr. Mickey Trimm, director, UAB Center for Healthcare Management and Leadership, Birmingham.