

Academic Goals and Achievements

The Division of Academic Affairs is committed to the University's mission of preparing "highly skilled, competent and socially aware graduates to enable them to work and live productively in a dynamic, global society." The Student Achievement goals align to the following goals in the University's [2018 – 2022 Strategic Plan](#):

Strategic Initiative 2: Enhance Student Enrollment and Success

- GOAL 2 Increase the overall retention rate.
- GOAL 3 Increase the number of offered student internships and placement in jobs, graduate, and professional schools.
- GOAL 6 Increase the six-year graduation rate.

Strategic Initiative 3: Transform the Curriculum and Research Programs

- GOAL 1 Realign academic programs to workforce demands and include experiential learning.

The effectiveness of the University's academic curricula, teaching, and services will have the following outcomes:

- Increase in the graduation rate;
- Increase in the retention rate for first-time, full-time freshmen;
- Increase in the overall retention rate;
- Satisfactory pass rates on qualifying exams; and
- Increase in the number of students engaged in experiential learning and research.

Student Achievement Goals and Outcomes

| Goal | 2017-2018 | 2018-2019 | 2019-2020 | 2020-2021 | 2021-2022 |
|---|---|-------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 10% Increase in Graduation Rate over five years | 39% (NSC Data) | 40% (NSC Data) | 34% (NSC Data) | 33% (NSC Data) | 38% (NSC Data) |
| 10% Increase in retention rate for first-time, full-time freshmen by 2022 | 64% | 68% | 69% | 69% | 68% |
| Increase the overall retention rate of degree-seeking students to 82% by 2022 | 72% | 70% | 73% | 72% | 68% |
| Maintain at least an 85% Pass Rate on Qualifying Exam Scores A. Praxis II Exam for Education Majors B. ASHA/NESPA Exam for Speech Pathology Majors (MA) | A. 100% B. 95% | A. 100% B. 85% | A. 100% B. 76% | A. 42%* B. 87% | A. 100% B. 83% |
| 50% increase in the number/percentage of students engaged in experiential learning by 2022 A. Number of Students Engaged in Research B. Number of Students Engaged in Experiential Learning | <i>This data was collected for the first time during the 2019-2020 academic year.</i> | | A. 250 (10%) B. 573 (23%) | A. 118 (5%) B. 388 (17%) | A. 255 (11%) B. 479 (20%) |

**Due to the pandemic, the PRAXIS testing centers were closed. The PRAXIS requirement was waived by the Institution because students were granted an additional year to complete the requirement by the State of South Carolina. Thus, the results are skewed for the 2020-21 academic year.*