

**IPEDS Six-Year Graduation Rate**

Definition: Percentage of first-time full-time cohort who graduated from the college within six years

Cohort	Columbia College Rate	Benchmark
Fall 2015	54%	45%
Fall 2016	55%	46%
Fall 2017	53%	45%

Benchmark: Mean graduation rate of peer group’s (see below) first-time full-time cohorts

**IPEDS First-time Full-time Retention Rate**

Definition: Percentage of first-time full-time students retained for their second fall

Cohort	Columbia College Rate	Benchmark
Fall 2021	55%	64%
Fall 2022	53%	67%
Fall 2023	60%	

Benchmark: Mean retention rate of peer group’s (see below) first-time full-time cohorts.

**Fall-to-Fall Success Rates**

Definition: Percentage of degree-seeking students from one fall either retained for the next fall or graduated before the next fall

Year	Subgroup	Columbia College Rate	Benchmark
Fall 2021 to Fall 2022	Undergraduate Day College	70%	70%
	Evening College	68%	65%
	Online Undergraduate Programs	64%	65%
	Graduate Programs	62%	70%
Fall 2022 to Fall 2023	Undergraduate Day College	72%	70%
	Evening College	74%	65%
	Online Undergraduate Programs	69%	65%
	Graduate Programs	54%	70%
Fall 2023 to Fall 2024	Undergraduate Day College	75%	70%
	Evening College	84%	65%
	Online Undergraduate Programs	71%	65%
	Graduate Programs	78%	70%

Benchmark: The benchmark for each subgroup of students is based on a general improvement over the past rates for the subgroup.

**DWF Rates**

Definition: Percentage of assigned grades that represent less than satisfactory progress: Ds (Cs in the case of the Graduate Programs), withdrawals, and failures.

Year	Subgroup	Columbia College Rate	Benchmark
Fall 2021	Undergraduate Day College	21%	20%
	Evening College	21%	20%
	Online Undergraduate Programs	16%	20%
	Graduate Programs	9%	15%
Fall 2022	Undergraduate Day College	19%	20%
	Evening College	21%	20%
	Online Undergraduate Programs	17%	20%
	Graduate Programs	6%	15%
Fall 2023	Undergraduate Day College	17%	20%
	Evening College	12%	20%
	Online Undergraduate Programs	16%	20%
	Graduate Programs	8%	15%

Benchmark: The College has established an informal target of a DWF rate of 20% any single undergraduate course and 15% for any graduate level course.

**Licensing Examination Results**

Definition: The percentage of students who take required licensing examinations (currently just PRAXIS II and ADEPT as needed for certification to teach) that pass those examinations

Results:

Year	Examination	Columbia College Rate	Benchmark
2021 – 2022	PRAXIS II	100%	100%
	ADEPT	90%	95%
2022 – 2023	PRAXIS II	100%	100%
	ADEPT	98%	95%
2023 – 2024	PRAXIS II	100%	100%
	ADEPT	100%	95%

Benchmark: The benchmark for passing the PRAXIS II examination in the student’s certifying field is 100% for graduates of the programs. South Carolina also evaluates teaching candidates’ performance in the classroom using a state-produced tool: the ADEPT Classroom Teacher

Evaluation. The benchmark for passing this evaluation is at least 95% of the graduates will be rated as successful teachers during their semester of directed (student) teaching.

**Job/Graduate School Placement Rates**

Definition: The percentage of Undergraduate Day College students who are employed or attending graduate school at six months after the student's graduation. (Only the Undergraduate Day College is used since the non-traditional programs are for working adults and those students are generally already employed while they are enrolled at the College.)

**Results:**

Year	Columbia College Rate	Benchmark
2019 – 2020	96%	82%
2020 – 2021	96%	84%
2021 - 2022	88%	86%

Benchmark: The national benchmark established by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE).

**Peer Group used for benchmarking IPEDS rates:**

Brescia University  
 Coker University  
 Converse University  
 Everglades University  
 Ferrum College  
 Greensboro College  
 Mary Baldwin University  
 Montreat College  
 Newberry College  
 Queens University of Charlotte  
 Salem College  
 Shorter University  
 Thomas University  
 University of Mobile  
 Warner University  
 Wesleyan College  
 William Peace University