

## **Piedmont Technical College Student Achievement Goals and Success**

Piedmont Technical College (PTC) is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award associate degrees. SACSCOC is a US Department of Education recognized higher education accreditation body whose membership is primarily made up of degree-granting higher education institutions in the Southern states. The Commission's Mission is to enhance institutions by ensuring that the needs of society and students are met. Member institutions share values and practices. SACSCOC accreditation signifies that PTC

- (1) has a mission appropriate to higher education,
- (2) has resources, programs, and services sufficient to accomplish and sustain that mission, and
- (3) maintains clearly specified educational objectives that are consistent with its mission and appropriate to the degrees it offers and that indicate whether it is successful in achieving its stated objectives.

Member peer institutions are dedicated to enhancing the quality of their programs and services and to creating an environment in which teaching, and learning occur. Student learning and student success are at the heart of the mission at PTC. To meet the goals of educational programs, PTC provides appropriate academic and student services to support student success. In addition to the provision of support services, PTC publishes student achievement goals and outcomes.

Piedmont Technical College measures the following student achievement criteria:

- Student Persistence from the fall to spring semester
- Student Retention from one fall term to the next
- Graduates
- Graduate awards
- Student Completions
- Licensure Exam First Attempt Pass
- Graduate Job Placement

Annual targets (levels of performance) for the criteria above are determined through a review of past institutional performance data and expected levels of performance (targets) set for some criteria by the South Carolina Technical College System. The institution assesses the extent to which the annual targets are achieved. The table below provides two years of institutional performance and the annual target (levels of performance) for the current year. Locally established annual targets are adjusted based on the previous year's performance and local, state, and national environmental scans. The College leadership evaluates institutional performance annually against a subset of peer institutions within the SC Technical College System where peer data is available. As strategic planning occurs, the planning committee reviews the student achievement goals and annual performance in order to inform the planning process. The goal is continuous institutional improvement.

### **Student Achievement Criteria Definitions:**

**Retention Rate:** The collection of students enrolled in the fall who did not graduate and who remain enrolled in the following fall term. Students who transfer to another college, attend through dual

enrollment high school opportunities, and career development students are not included in this calculation.

**Persistence Rate:** The collection of students who enrolled in the fall and who enroll in the following spring term. Graduates, high school dual enrollment, and transient students are not included in this calculation.

**Number of Graduates:** The collection of students who earn a certificate, diploma, and/or associate degree within the July 1 - June 30 reporting cycle. Graduates are unduplicated but some may have earned and received multiple awards.

**Number of Graduate Awards:** The collection of awards (certificate, diploma, and/or associate degrees) earned within the July 1 – June 30 reporting cycle. Students may earn multiple credentials.

**Student Completions Indicator Rate:** The National Student Clearing House (NSCH) total 6-year completion rate includes only first-time degree-seeking students, of any age, who began their postsecondary education in fall of the year noted. Each cohort is followed through May 31st of the sixth academic year and highlights the six-year student outcome; including degree and certificate completion and continuing enrollment (persistence).

**First-time, Licensure Exam Pass Rate:** The collection of first-time examinees who take and pass licensure exams on the first attempt during the April 1 – March 31 reporting cycle. Programs reported include those with licensure requirements such as funeral service, health science, and nursing.

**Graduate Job Placement:** This is the collection of graduates who are employed in their field of study or who are continuing their education. Data is collected from student who graduate during July 1 – June 30 reporting cycle. The graduate placement formula is # of graduates placed/# of graduates.

Table 1: Three-year Student Achievement Data provides PTC goals, annual target levels of performance, and outcomes for student achievement.

*Table 1: Three-year Student Achievement Data*

Piedmont Technical College Student Achievement Goals					
Persistence Rate					
Goal: Increase fall to spring persistence.					
2022-23 (Fall to Spring)		2023-24 (Fall to Spring)		2024-25 (Fall to Spring)	
Target: 75%	Actual: 75%	Target: 77%	Actual: 73%	Target: 75%	Actual:
Retention Rate					
Goal: Increase the fall-to-fall retention rate.					
2021-22 (Fall to Fall)		2022-23 (Fall to Fall)		2023-24 (Fall to Fall)	
Target: 50%	Actual: 46%	Target: 50%	Actual: 45%	Target: 50%	Actual: 50%

Number of Graduates					
Goal: Increase the number of unduplicated graduates produced annually.					
2021-22		2022-23		2023-24	
Target: 900	Actual: 1140	Target: 1200	Actual: 1204	Target: 1200	Actual: 1361
Graduate Awards					
Goal: Increase the number of awards (duplicated) produced annually.					
2021-22		2022-23		2023-24	
Target: 1000	Actual: 1653	Target: 1600	Actual: 1936	Target: 1600	Actual: 2053
Student Completion Indicator Rate					
Goal: Increase the six-year graduation rate of first-time, degree seeking students as measured by the National Student Clearinghouse Student Tracker Postsecondary Completions Benchmark Report.					
Fall 2021 NSC Report (Fall 2015 Entering Cohort)		Fall 2022 NSC Report (Fall 2016 Entering Cohort)		Fall 2023 NSC Report (Fall 2017 Entering Cohort)	
Target: +/-5% of National Benchmark (42.17%)	Actual: 37.97%	Target: +/-5% of National Benchmark (43.08%)	Actual: 36.30%	Target: +/-5% of National Benchmark (43.45%)	Actual: 36.90%
First-time Licensure Exam Pass Rates					
Goal: Increase the percentage of first time test-takers who pass licensure exams rates.					
2021-22 Report Year		2022-23 Report Year		2023-24 Report Year	
Target: 80%	Actual: 72.7%	Target: 80%	Actual: 77.3%	Target: 80%	Actual: 84.4%
Graduate Job Placement Rate					
Goal: Increase the percentage of graduates placed into jobs in their field of study or who continue their education.					
2022 Report Year		2023 Report Year		2024 Report Year	
Target: 90%	Actual: 93.5%	Target: 90%	Actual: 94%	Target: 90%	Actual: %