

Piedmont Technical College Student Achievement Goals and Success

Piedmont Technical College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award associate degrees. SACSCOC is the regional accreditation body of degree-granting higher education institutions in the Southern States. The Commission's Mission is the enhancement of 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 dedicate themselves to enhancing the quality of their programs and services within the context of their respective resources and capacities and to create an environment in which teaching and learning, research, and public service, as related to the mission of the institution, occur. Student learning and student success are at the core of the mission of all institutions of higher learning. To meet the goals of educational program, an institution provides appropriate academic and student services to support student success. In addition to the provision of support services, institutions identify, evaluate, and publish goals and outcomes for student achievement (SACSCOC, 2017).

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
- Number of graduates
- Number of graduate awards
- First-time, Licensure Exam Pass Rate
- Graduate Job Placement

The Academic Affairs Division sets annual targets for the criteria above and assesses the extent to which the criteria are achieved. The table below provides the three years of annual target and institutional performance. Annual targets are adjusted based on the previous year's performance and local, statewide, and national environmental scans. The College leadership evaluates institutional performance annually against a selected group of peer institutions within the SC Technical College System and against similar institutions nationally through participation in the National Community College Benchmarking Project. As strategic planning occurs, the planning committee reviews the 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.

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 graduate 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.

The table below provides PTC goals, annual targets, and outcomes for student achievement.

Student Achievement Goals					
Persistence Rate					
Goal: Increase fall to spring persistence.					
2017-18 (Fall to Spring)		2018-19 (Fall to Spring)		2019-20 (Fall to Spring)	
Target: 75%	Actual: 72.9%	Target: 74%	Actual: 75.1%	Target: 76%	Actual:
Retention Rate					
Goal: Increase the fall-to-fall retention rate.					
2017-18 (Fall to Fall)		2018-19 (Fall to Fall)		2019-20 (Fall to Fall)	
50%		Target: 51%	Actual: 48%	Target: 51%	Actual:
Number of Graduates					
Goal: Increase the number of unduplicated graduates produced.					
2017-18		2018-19		2019-20	
Target: 845	Actual: 845	Target: 925	Actual:	Target: 1000	Actual:
Graduate Awards					
Goal: Increase the number of awards (duplicated) produced.					
2017-18		2018-19		2019-20	
Target: 1087	Actual: 1011	Target: 1100	Actual:	Target: 1200	Actual:

First-time Licensure Exam Pass Rates

Goal: Increase the percentage of first time test-takers who pass licensure exams rates.

2017-18 Report Year		2018-19 Report Year		2019-20 Report Year	
Target: 89.9%	Actual 81.3%	Target: 86.3%	Actual:	Target:	Actual:

Graduate Job Placement Rate

Goal: Increase the percentage of graduates placed into jobs in their field of study or who continue their education.

2017 Report Year		2018 Report Year		2019 Report Year	
Target: 90%	Actual: 92.7%	Target: 93%	87.7%	Target: 90%	