

Piedmont College

Student Achievement Data 2018-2019

Piedmont College evaluates student achievement with respect to outcomes relevant to its mission, which “dedicates itself to the transformation power of education through reciprocal learning”. Specific goals within the strategic plan for the college articulate the institutional commitment to student success.

Goal 4: Piedmont College will offer traditional and innovative academic programs that are rigorous in content and flexible in real-world application.

Goal 6: Piedmont College will educate the whole student through co-curricular programs, extra-curricular activities, and experiential learning endeavors.

The college maintains an effective approach to evaluating its success with respect to student achievement, including consideration of satisfactory academic progress, course completion, graduation and retention rates, and state licensing examinations.

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP):

The U. S. Department of Education mandates that institutions of higher education establish minimum standards of “satisfactory academic progress” for students receiving financial aid. To be viewed as making satisfactory academic progress a student must (a) have a minimum institutional grade point average (GPA) required for their grade level, (b) successfully complete 67% of all college-level coursework attempted at Piedmont College, and (c) finish his or her educational program before attempting 150% of the number of hours required for the program. In addition to the SAP requirements above, Graduate students may have no more than one grade lower than a “B” during the duration of the program. The US DOE expected threshold is 90%.

Goal: Students will achieve Satisfactory Academic Progress.

Target = 95% of students will achieve Satisfactory Academic Progress

Semester	% of Undergraduate Students Meeting SAP	% of Graduate Students Meeting SAP
Fall 2016	93%	98%
Spring 2017	95%	97%
Summer 2017	98%	98%
Fall 2017	93%	98%
Spring 2018	93%	98%
Summer 2018	98%	99%
Fall 2018	93%	97%
Spring 2019	96%	98%
Summer 2019	99%	99%

Course Completion Rates:

Course completion policies require at least a grade of C in specified general education courses. Students must also earn minimum grades of C for all courses in their major, minor, and concentration. Data indicate Piedmont students are successfully completing courses.

Goal: Piedmont students will successfully complete coursework with a grade of A-C.

Target: 85% of students will complete courses with a grade of A-C.

Semester	Failing - %	D's or F's - %	Withdrawals -%	A's, B's, or C's %
Spring 2015 (14-15)	2.4	4.5	2.7	92.9
Spring 2016 (15-16)	2.2	5.2	3.1	91.7
Spring 2017 (16-17)	3.2	6.3	3.5	90
Spring 2018 (17-18)	2.5	5.2	4.2	90.6
Spring 2019 (18-19)	1.5	3.2	2.7	94.1

Student Retention and Graduation:

Retention, graduation and completion data for Piedmont College are reported annually in the national IPEDS Report.

1st to 2nd Year Retention Rates

Goal: To raise the retention rate annually.

Target: To meet or exceed the 1st year freshman retention rate for private colleges in Georgia.

Fall 15-Fall 16	Fall 16-Fall 17	Fall 17-Fall 18	Fall 18-Fall 19
68%	66%	61%	65%

The average 1st year freshman retention rate for private colleges in Georgia =66%.*

The average 1st year freshman retention rate for public colleges in Georgia = 62%.*

*data derived from NCES

1st to 3rd Year Retention Rates

Goal: To raise the retention rate annually.

Fall 14 Cohort Returning Fall 16	Fall 15 Cohort Returning Fall 17	Fall 16 Cohort Returning Fall 18	Fall 17 Cohort Returning Fall 2019
49%	53%	55%	45%

Graduation Rates for Students Pursuing Bachelor's Degrees – 6 year

Graduation rates measure the percentage of entering students beginning their studies full-time and planning to get a bachelor's degree and who complete their degree program within a specified amount of time as defined by IPEDS as 150% of "normal time".

Goal: To increase the graduation rate annually.

Target: To meet or exceed the 6 year graduation rate for private colleges in Georgia.

The chart below represents the percentage of full-time, first-time students who received a degree from Piedmont College within 150% of "normal time".

Fall 2011 Cohort	Fall 2012 Cohort	Fall 2013 Cohort
50%	51%	46%

The average 6 year graduation rate for private colleges in Georgia = 58%.*

The average 6 year graduation rate for public colleges in Georgia = 51%.*

*data derived from <http://www.georgiacolleges.org>

Licensure Pass Rates:

Specific professional programs use state and/or national exams for entry for licensure after graduation. The pass rate on certification tests and licensure exams are an integral part of the evaluation process in determining student achievement. These tests are as direct measures of successful student learning outcomes.

Nursing: The Nursing program continues to be successful in educating BSN candidates as evidenced by passage rates on examinations of the Georgia State Board of Nursing. Pass rates for Piedmont BSN graduates are consistently higher than both the national and Georgia rate.

Georgia Board of Nursing BSN Pass Rate

Goal: To achieve pass rates at or above the state and national level.

Target: 95% will pass with two attempts.

Year	Piedmont Pass Rate	National Pass Rate	Georgia Pass Rate
2015	96.36	84.53	86.06
2016	89.66	84.57	85.40
2017	96.55	87.11	87.31
2018	94.92	88.29	89.55
4 Year Average	94.37	86.12	87.08

RN Comprehensive Predictor Exam

Goal: All nursing students will successfully complete the RN Comprehensive exam within two attempts. This examination covers all nursing content.

Target: 100%

Year	% Pass Rate
2015	100
2016	100
2017	100
2018	100

Education: The Georgia Assessment for Certification of Educator (GACE) exam evaluates the knowledge and skills of teacher candidates.

Georgia Assessment for Certification of Educator (GACE) exam

Education majors must pass the GACE, which tests subject-specific content knowledge, as well as general and subject-specific teaching skills, for their content area to complete certification requirements in Georgia. Scores are for program completers for initial certification.

Goal: Test takers will achieve a passing score.

Target: 95% will achieve a passing score.

All Program Completers	% Institutional Pass Rate	% Statewide Pass Rate
2013-14	94	97
2014-15	100	99
2015-16	99	100
2016-17	100	99
2017-18*	93	97

*In 2017-18, edTPA was included as an assessment and included as part of the score instead of only calculating GACE content as in previous years.

