



Student Achievement Data 2024-2025

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

GOAL 2 – Programs

Piedmont University will ensure educational excellence through curricular and co-curricular programs which enable student success by:

- a) Offering traditional and innovative academic programs that are rigorous in content and flexibility in real-world application;
- b) Educating the whole student through co-curricular programs, extra-curricular activities, and experiential learning; and
- c) Providing students with the resources to achieve their academic goals in a timely fashion and meet learning outcomes in their degree programs.

The university 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 University-level coursework attempted at Piedmont University, and (c) finish his or her educational program before attempting 150% of the number of hours required for the program. The US DOE expected threshold is 90%.

Goal: Students will achieve Satisfactory Academic Progress.

Target = Rate greater than the US DOE threshold of 90%

Semester	% of Undergraduate Students Meeting SAP	% of Graduate Students Meeting SAP
Fall 2022	90%	92%
Spring 2023	91%	93%
Summer 2023	96%	95%
Fall 2023	93%	92%
Spring 2024	96%	92%
Summer 2024	98%	93%
Fall 2024	94%	90%
Spring 2025	95%	90%
Summer 2025	97%	93%

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,B,C,P %
Spring 2020 (19-20)	1.1	2.2	2.4	95.3
Spring 2021 (20-21)	1.6	3.1	3.0	93.5
Spring 2022 (21-22)	2.4	4.1	3.8	91.6
Spring 2023 (22-23)	2.3	3.9	3.0	93.0
Spring 2024 (23-24)	2.3	3.7	3.3	93.0
Spring 2025 (24-25)	2.5	3.9	2.7	93.5

Student Retention and Graduation

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

1st to 2nd Year Retention Rates

Goal: To raise the retention rate annually.

Target: 70%

Retention Rates - 1st to 2nd Year	Fall 21 to Fall 22	Fall 22 to Fall 23	Fall 23 to Fall 24	Fall 24 to Fall 25
Piedmont University	68%	77%	70%	71%
Comparison to Private Colleges in Georgia (Avg.)*	67%	67%	Not Yet Available	Not Yet Available
Comparison to Public Colleges in Georgia (Avg.)*	66%	69%	Not Yet Available	Not Yet Available

*data derived from NCES, based on IPEDS First-time First-year retention

1st to 3rd Year Continuing Enrollment

Goal: To retain students going into their 3rd year.

Target: Increase Percentage Annually

First Time Full Time Cohort	Fall 20 to Fall 22	Fall 21 to Fall 23	Fall 22 to Fall 24	Fall 23 to Fall 25
Percent Returning for Third Year	55%	59%	63%	52%

No comparison data are available for 1st to 3rd year retention rates.

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 University within 150% of "normal time" along with comparisons to 4-year private and 4-year public Georgia institutions.

Graduation Rates (Undergraduate)	Fall 2015 Cohort	Fall 2016 Cohort	Fall 2017 Cohort	Fall 2018 Cohort
Piedmont University	48%	48%	41%	47%
Comparison to Private Colleges in Georgia (Avg.)*	47%	45%	48%	Not Yet Available
Comparison to Public Colleges in Georgia (Avg.)*	42%	41%	38%	Not Yet Available

*data derived from NCES, based on IPEDS 6-year graduation rates for First Time Full Time Undergraduate

The following charts disaggregate Piedmont graduation rates by gender, Pell eligibility, and race/ethnicity.

Graduation Rates by Gender (Undergraduate)	Fall 2015 Cohort	Fall 2016 Cohort	Fall 2017 Cohort	Fall 2018 Cohort
Men	42%	43%	37%	46%
Women	52%	53%	44%	48%

Graduation Rates by Socio-Economic Metrics (Undergraduate)	Fall 2015 Cohort	Fall 2016 Cohort	Fall 2017 Cohort	Fall 2018 Cohort
PELL Recipient	46%	40%	37%	41%
Non-PELL Subsidized Loan Recipient	44%	51%	42%	45%
Non-PELL Unsubsidized Loan Recipient	52%	56%	48%	57%

Graduation Rates by Race/Ethnicity (Undergraduate)	Fall 2015 Cohort	Fall 2016 Cohort	Fall 2017 Cohort	Fall 2018 Cohort
American Indian or Alaska Native	N/A	33%	0%	33%
Asian	50%	0%	0%	67%
Black, Non-Hispanic	22%	30%	27%	43%
Hispanic	41%	47%	42%	80%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	N/A	0%	N/A	N/A
Non-Resident Alien	N/A	0%	N/A	67%
Race/Ethnicity Unknown	46%	35%	72%	43%
Two or More Races	N/A	31%	0%	50%
White, Non-Hispanic	52%	54%	43%	46%

Graduation Rates for Students Pursuing Graduate Degrees

Graduation rates measure the percentage of entering students planning to get a master's degree or an Education

Goal: To increase the graduation rate annually.

Target: 75%

The charts below represent the percentage of students who received a degree from Piedmont University within 200% of normal time. Each graduate program may have a different normal time based on program requirements.

Normal Time in Terms			
Program	MA/MS/ Education Specialist	MBA	MAT (Master of Arts in Teaching)
Terms	4	5	7
Graduation Rates (Graduate)	2019-20 Cohort	2020-21 Cohort	2021-22 Cohort
Master's (MA/MAT/MBA/MS)	87%	84%	78%
Education Specialist	98%	94%	89%

The following charts disaggregate Piedmont graduation rates by gender and race/ethnicity.

Graduation Rates by Gender (Graduate)	2019-20 Cohort	2020-21 Cohort	2021-22 Cohort
Men	90%	85%	73%
Women	95%	91%	86%
Graduation Rates by Race/Ethnicity (Graduate)	2019-20 Cohort	2020-21 Cohort	2021-22 Cohort
American Indian or Alaska Native	100%	n/a	67%
Asian	100%	75%	100%
Black, Non-Hispanic	88%	79%	74%
Hispanic	88%	100%	70%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	n/a	n/a	n/a
Non-Resident Alien	n/a	n/a	n/a
Race/Ethnicity Unknown	89%	60%	75%
Two or More Races	n/a	n/a	n/a
White, Non-Hispanic	94%	93%	87%

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: 90%

Year	Piedmont Pass Rate	National Pass Rate	Georgia Pass Rate
2021	87.34	86.07	86.33
2022	78.33	82.32	82.75
2023	95.89	90.18	89.88
2024	86.15	91.93	91.67
4 Year Average*	87.36	87.63	87.66

*Data for Bachelor of Science in Nursing programs provided by the Georgia Board of Nursing

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	Piedmont Pass Rate
2021	100
2022	100
2023	100
2024	100

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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
2019-20	98	98
2020-21	99	98
2021-22	99	99
2022-23	99	99
2023-24	99	98