



## **Erskine College**

### **Statement of Student Achievement**

*The institution identifies, evaluates, and publishes goals and outcomes for student achievement appropriate to the institution's mission, the nature of the students it serves, and the kinds of programs offered. The institution uses multiple measures to document student success.*

SACSCOC Core Requirement 8.1

In compliance with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), Erskine College (EC) establishes aspirational goals for student achievement and evaluates the success of students in achieving those goals. These institutional goals flow from EC's mission "to glorify God as a Christian academic community where students integrate knowledge and faith, equipped to flourish as whole persons prepared for lives of service, leadership, and influence through the pursuit of undergraduate liberal arts, graduate, and seminary education" and align with the "Academic Excellence" pillar of EC's Strategic Plan. The institution uses multiple measures to document student achievement and the established aspirational goals include the range of student constituencies and the educational programs offered.

EC has identified the four measures to demonstrate and evaluate student achievement: 1) Graduation Rates, 2) Retention & Persistence Rates, 3) Post-Graduation Employment (or Placement in the Field), and 4) Course Completion Rates.

## 1. Graduation Rates

EC has established graduation goals for undergraduate students beginning as first-time students, for undergraduate transfer-in students, and for graduate students to demonstrate student achievement.

### *Undergraduate Graduation Rate*

EC has selected the IPEDS's (Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System) 150% (6 years) graduation rate as its Key Student Completion Indicator (KSCI) registered with SACSCOC. This measure considers the graduation rate of first-time, full-time freshmen over a six-year timeframe. EC's goal is that undergraduate students would graduate at a rate equal to or greater than the median of a selected group of peer institutions as reported by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES).

<b><i>First-Time Undergraduates Graduation Rate</i></b>		
<b>Cohort Year</b>	<b>Goal Graduation Rate</b>	<b>Six-Year Graduation Rate</b>
2014	51%	52%
2015	53%	40%
2016	52%	46%
2017	50%	49%
2018	50%	45%
Five Year Average	51%	46%

### *Transfer-in Undergraduate Graduation Rate*

EC has selected the 150% (6 years) graduation rate target for transfer-in undergraduates with the goal that transfer-in students would graduate at a rate equal to or greater than the median of the IPEDS's 150% graduation among a selected group of peer institutions as reported by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES).

<b><i>Transfer-in Undergraduates Graduation Rate</i></b>		
<b>Cohort Year</b>	<b>Goal Graduation Rate</b>	<b>Six-Year Graduation Rate</b>
2015–2016	53%	84%
2016–2017	52%	77%
2017–2018	50%	66%
2018–2019	50%	58%
2019–2020	50%	59%
Five Year Average	51%	69%

### *Graduate Students Graduation Rate*

EC calculates the graduation rate for the Master of Theology on a two-year timeframe, Master of Divinity (MDiv) and Doctor of Ministry (DMin) degrees on a six-year time frame, and all other master's degrees (Practical Ministry, Theological Studies, and Christian Counseling) on a four-year time frame. These timeframes have been selected because most EC graduate students enroll part-time in accordance with its mission to serve students in ministry. Informed by the graduation rates from the previous five years and compared to selected peer institutions with embedded theological graduate schools, EC has set its overall graduation goal for graduate students at 65%.

<b><i>Graduate Student Graduation Rates</i></b>		
<b>Graduation Year</b>	<b>Goal</b>	<b>Rate</b>
2020	65%	55%
2021	65%	93%
2022	65%	85%
2023	65%	55%
2024	65%	69%
Five Year Average	65%	71%

## **2. Retention & Persistence Rates**

EC has established retention and persistence goals for undergraduate students beginning as first-time students and for graduate students to demonstrate student achievement.

### *First-time Undergraduate Retention*

This measure considers the retention rate of first-time, full-time freshman who continue into their sophomore year at EC. EC's goal is set at 60% based on the average of the last four years of freshman to sophomore retention. The goal is also informed by the range and mean of graduation rates of selected peer institutions.

<b><i>First-Time Undergraduate Retention</i></b>		
<b>Year-Over-Year (Fall Semester)</b>	<b>Goal Retention Rate</b>	<b>Retention Rate</b>
2020 to 2021	63%	63%
2021 to 2022	65%	63%
2022 to 2023	65%	58%
2023 to 2024	61%	56%
2024 to 2025	60%	65%
Five-Year Average	63%	61%

### *Graduate Student Persistence*

EC considers a graduate student as persisting if he or she continues to be enrolled in two consecutive academic years of study. EC has identified the persistence goal for graduate students at 64%.

<b><i>Graduate Student Persistence Rates</i></b>		
<b>Academic Year</b>	<b>Goal</b>	<b>Rate</b>
2020–2021	64%	57%
2021–2022	64%	58%
2022–2023	64%	57%
2023–2024	64%	65%
2024–2025	64%	61%
5-Year Average	64%	60%

### **3. Post-Graduation Employment/Placement in the Field**

EC has established goals for post-graduation employment for undergraduates and for placement in the field for graduate students to demonstrate student achievement.

#### *Post-Graduation Employment for Undergraduates*

The goal for EC's undergraduate employment rate is to meet the average of the "employed overall" rate among colleges and universities in the Southeast Region in the National Association of Colleges and Employers' (NACE) First-Destination Survey. EC obtains the post-graduation employment data (which includes attendance in graduate school) through responses to graduating senior and alumni surveys.

<b><i>Undergraduate Post-Graduation Employment</i></b>				
<b>Class of</b>	<b>NACE Percent Employed Overall in SE Region</b>	<b>EC Total Post-Graduation Placement (Employment + Graduate School)</b>	<b>EC Employment Rate</b>	<b>EC Graduate School Attendance</b>
2019	68%	80%	63%	17%
2020	53%	78%	61%	17%
2021	55%	76%	56%	20%
2022	60%	87%	57%	30%
2023	57%	93%	54%	39%
2024	Not yet published	86%	47%	39%

#### *Placement in the Field for Graduate Students*

EC tracks placement rates as a measure of graduate student achievement for its master's-level programs. (This measure of achievement is not applicable to DMin students, who are ordinarily required to be in full-time pastoral or ministry positions upon admission.) EC considers a graduate placed in the field if he or she has entered a desired vocation (e.g., a ministry-related, counselling-related, or other vocation) or continued with more advanced graduate/postgraduate education within six months of graduation. EC has set the goal for placement for graduate students at 87% based on the average of the placement rate among selected peer embedded theological schools over the previous four years.

<b><i>Post-Graduation Placement Rates for Graduate Students</i></b>		
<b>Graduated</b>	<b>Goal</b>	<b>Rate</b>
2021	87%	86%
2022	87%	82%
2023	87%	81%
2024	87%	86%

#### 4. Course Completion Rates

EC has established goals for course completion rates as a measure of student achievement for undergraduates. The institution defines course completion as a student enrolling in a course, earning a passing grade, and receiving credit for the course. EC's goal for course completion is 93%.

<b><i>Undergraduate Students Course Completion Rates</i></b>		
<b>Academic Year</b>	<b>Goal</b>	<b>Rate</b>
2020–2021	93%	
Fall 2020		84.3%
Spring 2021		88.6%
2021–2022	93%	
Fall 2021		87.7%
Spring 2022		89.4%
2022–2023	93%	
Fall 2022		89.3%
Spring 2023		91.7%
2023–2024	93%	
Fall 2023		89.4%
Spring 2024		91.0%
2024–2025	93%	
Fall 2024		91.1%
Spring 2025		91.9%
Five-Year Average		89.4%