



Claflin University

Graduation and Retention Rate Highlights

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Introduction

Claflin University (CU) uses graduation and retention rates to measure the academic success of Claflin students. Both graduation and retention rates are affected by behavioral, environmental characteristics, institutional choices and programs requirements.

Graduation Rate: A graduation rate is the percentage of students of a known cohort who graduates within a specified period of time. (Graduation rates are generally measured over these periods: 4 years, 5 years and 6 years.)

Formula:

Number of students graduated over the specified period divided by (\div) Number of students from the known cohort multiplied by (\times) 100

Retention Rate is the percentage of students in a known cohort who enrolled at the institution for a specific semester (fall) and returned to the institution the following semester (fall).

Formula:

Number of students enrolled form the cohort who returned to the institution the next academic year divided by (\div)Number of students from the established cohort who enrolled at the institution the previous academic year multiplied by (\times) 100

Note: For retention graduation rates, the definitions of the cohort may vary depending on the subject of interest. The most common cohort studied at the institution is the first-time/full-time, degree-seeking freshman students.

Summary

This report presents data on graduation and retention rates. Graduation and retention rates were calculated using first-time, full-time degree seeking freshmen at Claflin University. Graduation and retention rates from 1998 to 2010 are reported in table A together with Figures I and II.

The current graduation rate reflects the percentage of students for the established 2005 cohort who earned a bachelor's degree within six years. The six-year graduation rate for the 2005 cohort is 40%. (See Table A)

The current retention rate indicates the percentage of students the first time degree seeking freshman for the 2010 cohort who returned to the institution for the fall 2011 semester. The freshman retention rate for the 2010 cohort is 77%, a significant increase since 2005. (See Table A)

Table A: Graduation Rates and Retention Rates at Claflin University

Entering Full Time Degree Seeking Freshman Cohort		Retention Rates	Final Cohort after adjustable exclusions	Cumulative Graduation Rates		
Year	Number	First Year (Fall)	Revised Cohort	4 Years	5 Years	6 Years
1998	264	81%	260	50%	64%	68%
1999	326	81%	323	42%	54%	61%
2000	321	78%	316	41%	57%	60%
2001	314	79%	312	36%	50%	55%
2002	344	78%	342	34%	48%	51%
2003	360	79%	340	29%	44%	47%
2004	366	79%	365	30%	43%	46%
2005	385	74%	380	29%	37%	40%
2006	398	70%				
2007	390	68%				
2008	463	72%				
2009	464	70%				
2010	423	77%				

