

COHORT GRADUATE FAST FACTS

JULY 2016

Student cohorts: first time degree seeking students enrolled in programs requiring 24 or more credit hours to complete that start their education in the summer/fall term beginning fall 2005.

COHORT FINDINGS

- The average six year graduation rate is 36.8% based on summer/fall cohorts between 2005 and 2010.
- The average three year graduation rate is 32.5% based on summer/fall cohorts between 2005 and 2013.
- The average two year graduation rate is 21.4% based on summer/fall cohorts between 2005 and 2014.
- Graduation rates tend to be fairly similar for men and women. However, over time it appears that women tend to graduate at slightly higher rates than men.
- White students tend to graduate at much higher rates than minority students. This difference is consistent over time within and across student cohorts.
- Traditional aged students (i.e., students 23 and younger) tend to graduate at higher rates than their non-traditional aged counterparts. This difference is consistent over time within and across student cohorts with the exception of the 2009 student cohort.
- Full time students are much more likely to graduate than part time students. In fact, with the exception of the 2006 student cohort, full time students are at least four times more likely to have graduated within 3 years of enrollment when compared to part time students.
- Athletes tend to graduate at higher rates than non-athletes at Lake Land.
- Over time, students who participated in the dual credit program in high school are more likely to graduate than students who have not participated in dual credit programs.
- Overall it appears that students with disabilities are less likely to graduate than their non-disabled counterparts.
- Overall non-veterans are more likely to graduate than veterans. The small number of veterans in the cohorts may impact the validity of the results. In addition, the number of veterans enrolled may be underreported, since some students may overlook this variable on the intent to enroll form.
- Students not eligible for Pell are graduating at higher rates than students eligible to receive Pell grants.
- At four or more years post enrollment first generation students are less likely to graduate than their non-first generation counterparts. Between the 2009 and 2011 cohorts, students with unknown first generation status are also more likely to graduate than their first generation counterparts. However, for the 2012 and 2013 cohorts, first generation students and students with unknown first generation status are graduating around the same rate by year three.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- These findings indicate that students at a higher risk for not completing their programs tend to have one or more of the following characteristics: male, minority, nontraditional age, part time, disabilities, veterans, Pell eligible, and first generation.
- Efforts to increase graduation or completion rates should include an emphasis of working closely with one more of these demographic populations.