

RETENTION FAST FACTS

JUNE 2017

FIRST TIME DEGREE SEEKERS

- Almost 60% of first time full time degree seekers in fall 2014 were successful (success is defined as either graduated and/or still enrolled) by spring 2017 while only 22% of first time part time degree seekers in fall 2014 were successful.
- Around 52% of first time full time degree seekers in fall 2014 graduated from Lake Land by spring 2017 while only 12% of first time part time degree seekers graduated by spring 2017.
- Full time students with the highest success rates tend to 1) have a career major (67%), 2) be dual credit students (66%), 3) have a GPA of 2.0 or higher (65%), 4) be women (62%), and 5) be white (61%).
- The highest success rates for part time student groups include students who 1) have a GPA of 2.0 or higher (37%), 2) are dual credit students (26.6%), 3) are women (25.2%), and 4) are 40 and older (25%).
- First time full and part time students who struggle the most to succeed are students with a GPA less than 2.00 at the end of their first term (fall 2014).
- Division success rates for full time students ranges from 47.5% (Social Science and Ed) to 72.7% (Technology).
- First time students assessing into college level courses tend to be more successful than students needing one or more remedial course in any subject. Students assessing into one remedial area have a success rate of 45% and students assessing into two remedial areas have a 45% success rate.
- According to the National Student Clearinghouse, the six-year completion rate of Lake Land's students (50%) exceeds the completion rate of other community college students (27%).¹

ALL DEGREE SEEKING STUDENTS

- By the end of spring 2017 term, 61.5% of full time degree seeking students enrolled in fall 2014 were either still enrolled at Lake Land and/or graduated from Lake Land with a degree or certificate and around 50% of part time degree seeking students were still enrolled and/or graduated by spring 2017.
- When examining the success rates of both part and full time degree seeking students as a whole, the success rate is around 57%. The success rate *for first time* part and full time degree seekers as a whole is around 45%.
- As a whole the degree seeking demographic groups that struggle the most with retention are students with a GPA less than 2.00 at the end of fall 2014 (11.3% success) and minority students (40% success). Success rates for all remaining demographic groups range between 50% and 63%.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- The part time success rate for students at Lake Land is fairly low for both first time degree seekers (22%) and for all part time degree seekers (50%). Identifying ways to address the needs of part time students could help to increase the overall success rates of Lake Land's students.
- Students who struggle with success the most across the board (full/part time and first time/continuing students), have GPAs below 2.00 at the end of the first reporting semester. Students have to have a minimum of 2.00 GPA to graduate. Based on the results, it must be difficult to bring grades up to a 2.00 once a student falls below the minimum. Generating ways to identify and work with these students as soon as possible could have a significant impact on their success.
- The second group that struggles to achieve success are minority students. While minority students succeed at higher rates than students with a GPA under 2.00, there is still a need to enhance the success rate of these students.
- Focusing efforts in these three areas could have a dramatic impact on the educational success of Lake Land students.

¹ Student Tracker Postsecondary Completions: Institutional Benchmark Report Fall 2010 Entering Cohort. National Student Clearinghouse Research Center. Spring 2017.