

ACCSC STANDARDS OF ACCREDITATION

APPENDIX VI – STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RATES

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RATES – GRADUATION AND EMPLOYMENT

Revised July 1, 2016

The Commission determines the established benchmark rates of student graduation and graduate employment for its accredited schools from information collected in Annual Report submissions.¹ Schools should set goals to exceed not only the benchmark rates, but also the average rates of graduation and employment.

The following student achievement rates are in effect for all Graduation and Employment Charts that use a Report Date of July 1, 2016 and later. These rates remain in effect until further notice.

Established Benchmark Graduation Rates			
Program Length in Months	Average Rates of Graduation	Standard Deviation	Established Benchmark Graduation Rates*
1-3	92%	8%	84%
4-6	84%	11%	73%
7-9	72%	12%	60%
10-12	69%	14%	55%
13-15	64%	14%	50%
16-18	62%	15%	47%
19-23	61%	18%	43%
24+	53%	13%	40%

* If a school reports a lower graduation rate for a program, that program will be subject to additional monitoring or reporting as deemed appropriate. Prolonged failure to meet a benchmark rate will result in a programmatic or institutional action as deemed appropriate by the Commission (see *Section VII (B)(2)(a-c), Substantive Standards, Standards of Accreditation*).

Established Benchmark Employment Rate			
	Average Rate of Employment	Standard Deviation	Established Benchmark Employment Rate*
All Programs	78%	8%	70%

* If a school reports a lower employment rate for a program, that program will be subject to additional monitoring or reporting as deemed appropriate. Prolonged failure to meet a benchmark rate will result in a programmatic or institutional action as deemed appropriate by the Commission (see *Section VII (B)(2)(a-c), Substantive Standards, Standards of Accreditation*).

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RATE – LICENSURE/CERTIFICATION EXAM PASS RATE

For those programs where a governmental entity requires the attainment of a passing score on a licensure/certification exam in order to work in a particular field, the Commission determines a program's licensure/certification exam pass rate to be acceptable when at least **70%** of the students that take the exam attain a passing score.²

¹ Generally, the Commission establishes the benchmark rate at one standard deviation below the average (mean) aggregated graduation and employment rate data collected in the Annual Report.

² If another entity or agency requires a higher examination pass rate, the higher standard shall apply and the Commission will take into consideration any action taken by another entity or agency with regard to a school's failure to meet an examination pass rate requirement (see *Section I (D)(3), Rules of Process and Procedure, Standards of Accreditation*).