Day 5: Did you know what CMU has retention and graduation rate goals?

[HLC Criterion 4.C.1] Goals defined for student retention, persistence, and completion are attainable and appropriate to mission, student populations, and educational offerings.

In recent years, CMU has made significant gains in the one-year retention rates for first-time, full-time students, coupled with improvements to its six-year graduation rates. The first-year retention rate for the Fall 2015 cohort reached 73.3%, up from 65.9% for the Fall 2009 entering students. Meanwhile, the six-year graduation rate climbed from 24% for the cohort entering in Fall 2005 to 35.8% for the Fall 2010 group. In its final report, the Working Group to Improve Student Academic Success set a five-year goal of **80% for first-year retention and 45% for six-year graduation** for first-time, full-time, baccalaureate-seeking students. For **community college students, a more aggressive improvement - to 61% - is expected so as to meet the national success rate average.** Recommendations made by the working group in 2017 are now being implemented.

**To learn more,** log into MAVzone and click on the document link found in the CMU Assurance Argument for HLC channel (top left on the Home tab) for the full text of CMU's Assurance Argument. Links to supporting evidence are identified by underlined words but are not available through the PDF version.

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