

MEASURE 4: Demonstrate Student Achievement through Job Placement/Post-Graduate/Professional Study After Program Completion

Metric: Job placement/ post-baccalaureate education rates

Identification: The University fulfills its core mission of teaching, research, and service by conferring degrees from the baccalaureate to doctoral levels, which prepare graduates for advanced studies, professional education, or entry into the workforce as educated professionals contributing to societal advancement, aligning with the objectives of **ASU’s Focus 2030** strategic plan. This focus is the rationale for selecting placement as a criterion for student achievement. ASU defines placement as either full-time or part-time employment and/or a transition into higher education (graduate or professional school) after completing a baccalaureate degree at ASU. Data on graduate placement are collected each December and May during graduation week when students are asked to complete the voluntary Graduation Exit Survey. Responses to the ‘future plans’ question are included in the data for this achievement measure if students (a) are already employed, (b) have a job offer, (c) have been accepted to graduate or professional school, or (d) have submitted an application and are awaiting a response from the school. Since graduate school applications are commonly due in January or February, it is expected that the overall rates for job placement and further education will be slightly lower for the fall compared to the spring terms, as illustrated in Table 3.

There are no external requirements or guidelines informing the use of this placement measure, except for the Physical Therapy accreditor, which has set a benchmark of 90% employment for doctoral graduates. As a result, ASU’s rationale for setting the minimum threshold was to base it on historical data to ensure the University is striving to improve while at minimum meeting past performance. The specific minimum threshold are to have 40% of spring graduates with a job/ job offer prior to graduation, and 30% of spring graduates waiting or accepted into graduate school prior to graduation. The goal for this criterion is 50% for jobs and 45% for graduate school. The most recent data concerning this achievement goal for ASU is presented in Table 3.

Table 3: Job and Graduate School Plan Status of Undergraduate Students at Baccalaureate Graduation

Term	# baccalaureate graduates	Graduation Exit Survey response rate	% with job or job offer at graduation	% accepted to or waiting on response from graduate school at graduation
Minimum Threshold			40%	30%
Fall 21	192	9%	67%	44%
Spring 22	280	17%	67%	56%
Fall 22	197	74%	42%	32%
Spring 23	275	86%	40%	47%
Fall 23	169	39%	44%	37%
Spring 24	288	49%	49%	34%
Fall 24	173	51%	33%	42%
Spring 25	284	60%	41%	50%
Goal			50%	45%

Evaluation: From the academic year 2023-24 to 2024-25, there was a decrease in the percentage of graduates with a job/job offer just prior to graduation and an increase in the percentage of graduates accepted or waiting for acceptance to graduate school. The decrease in jobs and increase in graduate school makes sense, given the decreased labor market demand in recent years, leading more students to pursue further education over entering the job market. To help increase the percentage of baccalaureate graduates who seek jobs or additional studies after graduation, the Office of Institutional Research provides data to various instructional and non-instructional departments on campus. These data are also incorporated into the assessment plans of these work units, as appropriate. Additionally, the Job Placement and Further Study rates for ASU are published on the **ASU Achievement Goal webpage**, which is updated annually.