

HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING COMMITTEE - SURVEY RESULTS

This memorandum provides information on the results of a survey of the Higher Education Funding Committee members. Seven members of the committee completed and submitted the survey. The survey asked respondents to list their top three criteria for designing accountability measures for the North Dakota University System and to rank their top 10 accountability measures from a list of 32 measures.

CRITERIA TO DESIGN ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES

The criteria to design accountability measures identified by the survey respondents are listed below.

- Affordability - Tuition and fees in comparison to regional schools; average debt.
- Retention rates.
- Job placement following graduation.
- Academic standards met - Ensure students are learning what they need to know.
- On-time graduation.
- Student retention.
- Quality of graduates - Employer satisfaction, career entry examination results, etc.
- Cost-effective.
- Success with developmental program students.
- Are students learning critical and analytical thinking skills that will last a lifetime?
- Are students learning to solve problems creatively?
- Are students broadening their understanding of the world and integrating that understanding into their character?
- Successful matriculation.
- Research dollars received.
- Quality of graduates - Example -- first-time passage rates on national tests; feedback from employers.
- Graduation rates.
- Retention rates after first year.
- Passing rates on professional examinations.
- Administrative cost per credit-hour.
- Cost efficiencies.

RANKING OF ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES

The schedule below summarizes the results of the survey regarding the respondents' ranking of accountability measures. The measures are ranked from highest to lowest based on the weighted average score of the responses. The measure number in the third column corresponds to the original list of accountability measures ([appendix](#)).

Rank	Accountability Measures	Measure Number
1	Student graduation rates	7
2	Employer-reported satisfaction with recent graduates	13
3	Student-reported satisfaction	11
4	First-year student retention rates	8
5	First-time professional licensure pass rates	10
6	Responsiveness to workforce needs	14
7	Proportion of the population with an associate's degree or higher	16
8	Percentage of population with a postsecondary credential	32

Rank	Accountability Measures	Measure Number
9	Performance on nationally recognized examinations	9
10	Retention of University System graduates in the state	2
11	Alumni-reported satisfaction	12
12	Cumulative debt of college graduates	22
13	Research expenditures	5
14	Employment rates of recent college graduates	20
15	Entrepreneurship program enrollment and graduates	1
16	Percentage of family income required for tuition, fees, and instructional materials	21
17	Certificates, diplomas, and degrees awarded	6
18	Number of enrolled students requiring remedial work	28
19	Workforce training satisfaction	4
20	Proportion of college-bound students who demonstrate college-ready achievement	27
21	Number of enrolled students requiring remedial work that continue after their first semester, first year, and second year	29
22	Changes in institutional expenditures for instruction, administration, physical plant, academic support, and student support	30
23	Student success in transferring to other institutions	15
24	Recent high school graduates enrolled at an institution	17
25	Completion rates by ethnicity, age, and financial standing	31
26	Number of students leaving college due to financial difficulty	25
27	Adult and other nontraditional student enrollment and success	18
28	Student loan default rates	24

None of the respondents selected the accountability measures listed below as one of their top 10 measures.

Accountability Measures	Measure Number
Workforce training provided	3
Number of degrees/certificates awarded by career cluster	19
Manageable loan repayments	23
Number of students with student loans who succeed	26