

Fortis College, Columbia, SC

Retention Rate

In accordance with the Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA) of 2008 and the Higher Education Act of 1965 (as amended), each postsecondary educational institution must disclose information about retention rates to current and prospective students.

The retention rate is a measure of the rate at which students persist in their educational program at an institution, expressed as a percentage. This rate examines the percentage of first-time undergraduate degree/certificate-seeking students who enrolled during the fall of the prior year that are either still enrolled in the following fall or successfully completed their program in that time.

This rate is compiled based on specific instructions and cohorts that are defined by the National Center for Education Statistics through the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). The Fall 2023 cohort is required to be disclosed for the 2025-2026 federal student aid award year. Since the retention rate only includes the Fall cohort of first-time students, the retention rate may not be representative of the entire student population.

Displayed below is the Fall 2023 data for our institution:

Full-Time, First-Time Cohort Retention:	
<i>Count of Full-Time, First-Time Undergraduate Students who enrolled during the Fall 2023 (8/1/2023 to 10/31/2023)</i>	50
<i>Count of Full-Time, First-Time Undergraduate Students from Fall 2023 cohort (above) still enrolled or completed as of August 1, 2024</i>	33
<i>Count of students excluded from the Fall 2023 Cohort</i>	0
Percentage of Full-Time, First-Time Students Who Began Their Studies in Fall 2023 and Remained Enrolled or Completed as of August 1, 2024	66%

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- 1) Source Document is the Fall Enrollment Survey that is completed and submitted through IPEDS. The above data was extracted from the most recent survey submitted.
- 2) The retention rates displayed above are based on first-time students enrolling during the fall time-frame. As a result, these rates may not be representative of the entire student population.
- 3) A first-time student is defined as a student who has not previously attended a post-secondary institution. Students who did not identify their first-time status were assumed first-time students per guidance provided by IPEDS. As a result, it is possible the data above may also include non-first time students.
- 4) Full-time and part-time programs were determined using the full-time and part-time definitions as defined by the Financial Aid Office.