

## Agenda Item 2g

### **Consideration of Year 7 (2002-03) Performance Funding Issues: Measure and Standard for Indicator 7E, Number of Graduates Who Continued Their Education, for Regional Campuses**

**Staff Explanation:** Indicator 7E, *Number Of Graduates Who Continued Their Education*, was approved by the Commission in April, 2001, for the regional campuses as a measure of the percentage of first-time, full-time degree-seeking students who earn a baccalaureate degree within 150% of normal program time (6 years for a baccalaureate degree) from in-state public institutions or from other institutions provided appropriate documentation can be presented by the reporting regional campus.

The measure was approved as a “compliance” indicator in Year 6 (2001-02) so that measurement details related to the collection of data for cohort members graduating with a baccalaureate from institutions that do not report data through CHEMIS could be considered and baseline data could be collected. Staff has worked with sector representatives in order to refine the measure and to develop standards based on available data. The resulting measure is attached and includes the refinements made to address definitional issues that arose as the baseline data were considered and the measure was discussed among staff and sector representatives.

Staff is proposing the adoption of the measure as presented herein along with a recommended standard of 25.0% to 40.0% for a score of “Achieves.” Performance greater than 40.0% would merit a score of “Exceeds,” whereas, performance less than 25.0% would merit a score of “Does Not Achieve.” An improvement factor of 3% is also recommended and would provide the opportunity for institutions earning scores of “Achieves” or “Does Not Achieve” to earn an additional 0.5 points if their performance is greater than or equal to a performance demonstrating a 3% increase over the institution’s average performance for the past three years. Staff plans to use the data collected and reviewed for determining standards as historical data (i.e., data using the 1993, 1994, and 1995 cohorts)

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the Planning and Assessment Committee recommend for approval of the Commission the measure for Indicator 7E for the Regional Campuses as presented herein along with standard for “Achieves” of 25.0% to 40.0% and an improvement factor of 3%.

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**(7) GRADUATES' ACHIEVEMENTS**  
**(7E) NUMBER OF GRADUATES WHO CONTINUED THEIR EDUCATION**

**MEASURE**

Percentage of first-time, full-time degree-seeking students who earn a baccalaureate degree within 150% of normal program time (6 years for a baccalaureate degree) from in-state public institutions or from other institutions provided appropriate documentation can be presented by the reporting regional campus.

**APPLICABILITY**

Applicable to all Regional Campuses

**MEASUREMENT INFORMATION**

<b>General Data Source:</b>	Reference cohort to be in keeping with GRS reporting requirements. Data will be reported to CHE by institutions and if possible, be incorporated into CHEMIS reporting requirements. Data used will be those used in determining the IPEDS GRS survey data with supplemental information on students earning degrees from non-CHEMIS reporting institutions provided it is available sector-wide from a centralized reporting system such as the National Clearinghouse.
<b>Timeframe:</b>	The 1996 cohort and status as of 2002 applies for Year 7. (Note: Data are derived from an identified cohort and outcome as measured six-years later. Cohort definitions are intended to be consistent with those used for national reporting for 4-year graduation rates (IPEDS GRS).
<b>Cycle:</b>	Rated annually.
<b>Display:</b>	Percentage.
<b>Rounding:</b>	Data rounded to 1 decimal.
<b>Expected Trend:</b>	Upward movement is considered to indicate improvement.
<b>Type Standard:</b>	Assessment based on comparison to a set scale.
<b>Improvement Factor:</b>	>= 3% of past 3-year performance average.

**CALCULATIONS, DEFINITIONS and EXPLANATORY NOTES**

Graduate Record Survey (GRS) for the Student Right to Know Legislation includes full-time, first-time degree/certificate/diploma-seeking students in identified cohorts and is calculated based on those completing their program within 150% of normal time. For

additional measurement details related to cohort development, the reader is referred to the IPEDS Graduation Rate Survey for 2-year institutions. The survey and applicable definitions may be accessed through the NCES IPEDS website at: <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds> and selecting the option for survey forms.

Normal program time is the time stated in the institution's catalogue to obtain a degree. Generally four years for a baccalaureate degree.

150% of normal program time refers to three years for a two-year degree and six years for an undergraduate degree, for example.

First-time, full-time students includes undergraduate students only.

First-time refers to a student's first time at any college.

Full-time refers to at least 12 credit hours enrollment for an undergraduate student.

Data will be calculated in a manner consistent with the methodology used to calculate the IPEDS GRS Survey Graduation Rate data and those data calculated for Indicator 7A, as is possible. The appropriate GRS Cohort will be identified from the data reported on CHEMIS by regional campuses and will serve as the denominator for the measure. From that cohort, the number of students graduating with a baccalaureate degree as of the time period specified in the measure will be determined for each of the regional campuses using available CHEMIS data reported by public and private South Carolina institutions. The data for the indicator will reflect the number in the cohort that earned baccalaureate degrees as of the identified timeframe divided by the identified cohort number and expressed as a percentage.

Data on degrees earned of cohort members from non-CHEMIS reporting institutions will be allowable and used to supplement CHEMIS data provided that the data are reported from a centralized reporting system such as the National Clearinghouse and made available sector-wide.

**STANDARDS USED TO ASSESS PERFORMANCE**

<b>STANDARDS ADOPTED IN 2000 TO BE IN EFFECT FOR PERFORMANCE YEARS 7 (2002-03)</b>		
<b>Sector</b>	<b>Level Required to Achieve a Score of 2 *</b>	<b>Reference Notes</b>
Regional	25.0% to 40.0%	Standards developed by considering available cohort data for Regional Campuses.

**\*If an institution scores above the higher number, a 3 is awarded. If an institution score below the lower number of 1 is awarded.**

**Improvement Factor:**            3%

If an institution scores a 1 or 2, performance is assessed for improvement to determine whether an additional 0.5 is to be awarded to the score for this indicator. To earn the 0.5:

Improvement Factor Calculation Methodology:

IF Indicator (or Indicator Subpart) Score based on Comparison to Standards = 1 or 2  
AND Current Performance  $\leq$  (Most Recent 3-yr Avg – (3% of Most Recent 3-yr Avg))  
THEN Add 0.5 to the score for this indicator or subpart.

**NOTES**

1 ) This indicator was approved by the Commission for use as a scored indicator for the regional campuses sector on April 5, 2002. Scoring of this indicator was deferred in Year 6 (2001-02 to impact 2002-03) as measurement details were worked out and baseline data were collected. The measure is to be scored for the first time in Year 7 (2002-03 to impact 2003-04.) The recommended standard and necessary measurement refinements for Years 7, 8 and 9 were considered by the Planning and Assessment Committee on September 5, 2002, and approved by the Commission on that same day.