

Degree and Certificate Completion Rates

	2009-2016	2013-2018	Trend	Target	Rating
3-year	14%	18%	↑	17%	Emerging
6-year	16%	22%	↑	21%	

Mission Fulfillment Indicator (MFI) 12 measures Lane Community College’s 3-year and 6-year degree completion rates for each fall cohort. Fall cohorts are made up of students who are new to Lane in fall, taking credit bearing courses, and seeking credentials of 1 year or longer including “direct transfers.” To count as completed, awards must be both “earned”—meaning all degree requirements completed—and “conferred”—meaning the College has issued the award—within a 3- or 6-year period. For this MFI, new students include those with early college courses completed during high school. Because graduation is the primary educational goal and chief indicator of educational success for many Lane students, MFI 12 is a critical lagging indicator of mission fulfillment.

Discussion

In Figure 1 the percentage of students completing degrees or certificates within 3 remained flat at 18% from Fall 2016 to Fall 2018, and those completing within 6 years declined 1% from 23% to 22% in that same time period. Although the 3-year data is stable, working to establish an upward trend is necessary.

The disaggregated data in Figure 2 shows that students who have taken college courses in high school as part of an Early College program and students who have some Prior College experience at another post-secondary institution have similar outcomes. However, the rate at which First

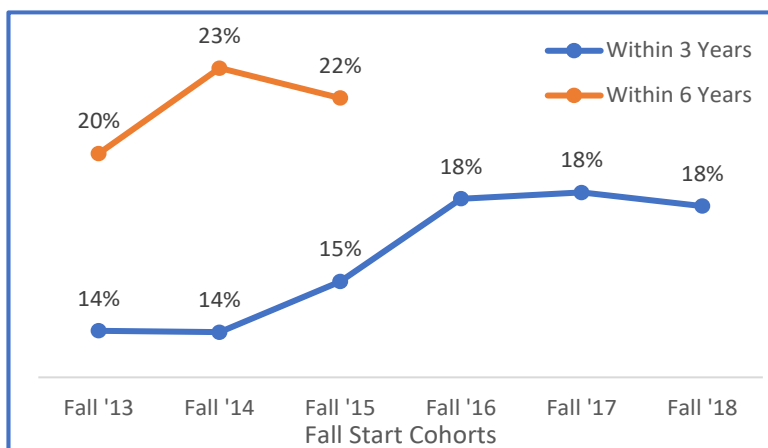


Figure 1: Percentage of Students from Fall Cohorts who Complete Degrees within 3 or 6 years

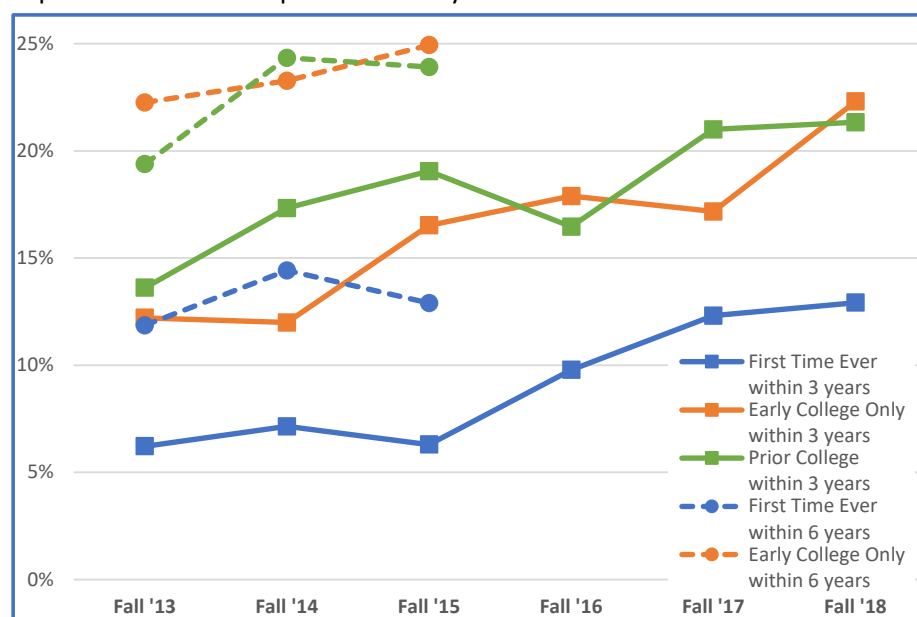


Figure 2: Degrees conferred in 3 and 6 years showing differing outcomes based on previous college experience

Time Ever in College students attain degrees is well below the other groups. The fact that all groups are below 25%, with First Time Ever in College at below 15% shows that the college needs to take action to improve these numbers. First Time Ever in College students will need particular attention because in this and other metrics, the gap between this and other groups is significant.

Through the Default Academic Plan (DAP) to Individualized Academic Plan (IAP) process, updated gateway course placement, and improved and in-person student supports, the college intends to improve the completion rates of this and other groups of students.

Peer Comparisons

The accreditation process calls for evidence-informed self-reflection along with meaningful comparison against peers to provide a contextualized perspective on an institution's quality. Table 1 shows that both Chemeketa and Mt Hood community colleges achieved much higher 6-year graduation rates than Lane for the [Voluntary Framework of Accountability](#) (VFA) 2013 cohorts.

	Fall 2013 Cohort	Percent who Received an Award
Lane	1,357	18.4%
Chemeketa	1,351	28.4%
Linn-Benton	923	18.3%
Mt Hood	1,636	25.1%

Lessons Learned & Next Steps

Lane Community College has been investing in initiatives tied to Guided Pathways for a number of years, with the goal of making Lane a student ready college. Ongoing strategies designed to continue the upward trend in graduate rates include:

DAPs to IAPs: The end goal of the Default Academic Plan (DAP) process is for advisors and students to work together and use a DAP to create an Individualized Academic Plan (IAP). This plan would detail the courses needed in order to achieve timely completion of a course of study. Informed by the DAP and IAP process, the college hopes to establish year-round scheduling, so that students will be able to take courses on time and in accordance with their plan of study for timely completion.

Year-Round Scheduling: Informed by the DAP process, the college is working to establish year-round scheduling, so that students will be able to take courses on time and in accordance with their plan of study for timely completion.

Holistic Student Supports (HSS): A comprehensive HSS program that supports students in a holistic manner to assist them staying in school and complete a course of study.