

4.1

Student achievement

The institution evaluates success with respect to student achievement consistent with its mission. Criteria may include enrollment data; retention, graduation, course completion, and job placement rates; state licensing examinations; student portfolios; or other means of demonstrating achievement of goals.

Judgment

Compliance Partial Compliance Non-Compliance Not Applicable

Narrative

Vernon College (VC) evaluates success with respect to student achievement as appropriate to its [mission](#) and in accordance with the requirements established by the state of Texas. In specific regard to student achievement, a review of the institutional mission reveals that Vernon College will provide:

- Career technical/workforce programs up to two years in length leading to associate degrees or certificates;
- Career technical/workforce programs leading directly to employment in semi-skilled and skilled occupations;
- Freshman and sophomore courses in arts and sciences, including the new core and field of study curricula leading to associate and baccalaureate degrees;
- Ongoing adult education programs for occupational upgrading and personal enrichment;
- A continuing program of counseling and guidance designed to assist students in achieving their individual educational goals;
- Career technical/workforce development programs designed to meet local and statewide needs.

Vernon College utilizes retention/persistence, graduation, course completion, job placement rates, state licensing examination results, and other means of demonstrating student achievement. As [published statements of goals for student achievement](#) and the success of students in achieving these goals, the [Vernon College Key Performance Indicators of Accountability](#) (KPIA) include data as well as [benchmarks](#) that are set by the institution and monitored over time (examples: Student Success Data Committee (formerly Student Success by the Numbers Committee) [April 2016 electronic meeting notes](#), and [September 15, 2017 minutes](#); [list of Student Success Data Facts presented to the Board of Trustees](#); and [September 13, 2017 minutes, p. 2](#), and [November 8, 2017 agenda](#)). Benchmarks are used by VC

to measure institutional performance relative to stated goals. The process of benchmarking helps to identify areas of needed improvement as well as best practices allowing Vernon College components to prioritize when developing plans for making improvements or adapting best practices to increase aspects of performance. KPIA data and benchmark information is presented for analysis to the College Effectiveness Committee, Student Success Data Committee, Board of Trustees, as well as Data Facts in the President's Monthly College Update published for the College community (examples: College Effectiveness Committee minutes [September 25, 2015, p. 3](#); Student Success Data Committee minutes [September 23, 2016 p. 2](#); Board of Trustees minutes [January 18, 2017, p. 2](#); [President's Monthly College Update, February 2017, p. 4](#)).

KPIA data specifically related to student achievement include:

- [Course Completion Success](#)
- [Graduation, Persistence and Retention](#)
- [Licensure-Certification](#)
- [Non Transfer Completers and Transfer](#)
- [Placement and Completion](#)

Key Performance Indicators of Accountability data is structured using the most recent data available and measurement/operational definitions from sources such as the [Texas Higher Education Accountability System](#) and [Perkins Data Resources](#). Data assembled from external sources provides the opportunity for comparison with small community college cohorts as well as all Texas community colleges. The Texas Higher Education Accountability System is used as the KPIA data source for Graduation and Persistence Rate, and Non Transfer Completers and Transfer. Perkins Data Resources include Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) data such as the [Automated Student and Adult Learner Follow-up System](#) and [CB 116 Supplemental Follow-up](#). It is the source for student follow-up such as Placement and Completion. Licensure-Certification examination results are gleaned from testing entities. Data obtained from internal sources (e.g., VC student information system) provide content for Course Completion Success and Retention/Persistence.

As part of an integrated and institution-wide, research-based planning, evaluation, and improvement process that incorporates a systematic review of programs and services, VC conducts a [five-year cycle of Instructional Program – Discipline Review and Assessment](#). The process is a self-study that includes information such as a review of goals, learning outcomes, disaggregation of course completion rates, and student success rates by delivery mode (including distance education), relationship to the mission of VC, enrollment statistics, retention/persistence or transfer, program completers, licensure/certification pass rates, and placement rates. Program or discipline faculty members, with assistance from the Division Chair, provide initial evaluation. A Program/Discipline Review and Assessment Subcommittee, assigned by the President, review the reports and send them to the Vice President of Instructional

Services and Academic Council for review. Source samples of student achievement review in Program/ Discipline Evaluations include: [Discipline Evaluation Economics 2015](#), [Discipline Evaluation Mathematics 2016](#), [Program Evaluation Welding 2015](#), and [Program Evaluation Cosmetology 2016](#). Once reviewed, evaluation summaries are presented by the President to the Board of Trustees ([August 19, 2015, p. 2](#); [May 18, 2016, p. 2](#); and [June 14, 2017, p. 2](#)).

To provide full transparency and opportunity for data-informed decision making, KPIA information as well as data highlights from other assessments and reports are published on the Vernon College [website](#). Data is used to support and improve student achievement through the [strategic planning process](#). Document examples specifically pointing to student achievement include:

- [Priority Initiatives 2018-2019](#)
- [Vernon College Annual Action Plan Summary by Priority Initiative 2017-2018, pp. 1, 8-9, 15-17, 40, 43](#)
- [Vernon College Annual Action Plan Final Summary by Priority Initiative 2016-2017, pp. 1, 5, 8, 19, 24-26](#)
- [Vernon College Annual Action Plan Final Summary by Priority Initiative 2015-2016, pp. 2-3, 23, 25-29](#)

Sources

2015-2016 Annual Action Plan Final Summary by Priority Initiative, pp. 2-3, 23, 25-29	▲
2016-2017 Annual Action Plan Final Summary by Priority Initiative, pp. 1, 5, 8, 19, 24-26	▼
2017-2018 Annual Action Plan Summary by Priority Initiative, pp. 1, 8-9, 15-17, 40, 43	▲
College Effectiveness Committee minutes, September 25, 2015, p. 3	▼
College Update February 2017, p. 4	▲
Course Completion Success, Key Performance Indicator of Accountability and Benchmark	▼
Discipline Evaluation Economics 2015-2016, pp. 9-14 - Course Completion and Success	▲
Discipline Evaluation Mathematics 2016-2017, pp. 13-26 - Course Completion and Success	▼
Graduation, Retention and Persistence, Key Performance Indicator of Accountability and Benchmark	▲
Key Performance Indicators of Accountability and Benchmarks webpage	▼

-  [Key Performance Indicators of Accountability and Benchmarks, September 15, 2017](#)
-  [Licensure and Certification Rate, Key Performance Indicator of Accountability and Benchmark](#)
-  [Non Transfer Completers and Transfer, Key Performance Indicator of Accountability and Benchmark](#)
-  [Perkins Data Resources Automated Student and Adult Learner and CBM 116 Follow-up, p. 31](#)
-  [Placement and Completion, Key Performance Indicator of Accountability and Benchmark](#)
-  [Priority Initiatives 2018-2019](#)
-  [Program Discipline Evaluation Schedule 2013-2022](#)
-  [Program Evaluation Cosmetology 2016-2017, pp. 8-10, 14, 19-20 - Course Completion, Licensure, Completers, Placement](#)
-  [Program Evaluation Welding 2015-2016, pp. 11-21, 24, 31-32 - Course Completion, Licensure, Completers, Placement](#)
-  [SACSCOC Institutional Obligations for Public Disclosure, June 2017](#)
-  [Student Success Data Committee electronic meeting notes, April 2016](#)
-  [Student Success Data Committee minutes, September 15, 2017](#)
-  [Student Success Data Committee minutes, September 23, 2016, p. 2](#)
-  [Student Success Data Facts List as presented to Board of Trustees](#)
-  [Texas Higher Education Accountability System website](#)
-  [Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Perkins Data Resources webpage](#)
-  [Vernon College Board of Trustees agenda, November 8, 2017](#)
-  [Vernon College Board of Trustees minutes, August 19, 2015, p. 2 - Program-Discipline](#)
-  [Vernon College Board of Trustees minutes, January 18, 2017, p. 2](#)
-  [Vernon College Board of Trustees minutes, June 14, 2017, p. 2 - Program-Discipline](#)
-  [Vernon College Board of Trustees minutes, May 18, 2016, p. 2 - Program-Discipline](#)
-  [Vernon College Board of Trustees minutes, September 13, 2017, p. 2](#)
- [Vernon College Effectiveness webpage - Assessment Data and Key Performance Indicators of Accountability](#)
- [Vernon College Mission](#)
- [Vernon College Planning Process diagram](#)
- [Vernon College President's Monthly Update webpage](#)