

# Retention Rates Definitions

## Degree-Seeking Freshmen

Degree-seeking freshmen are those who declare the objective of earning a degree when they enroll for their first term in college. That includes students seeking less-than-one-year and one-year certificates, associate's degrees, and bachelor's degrees.

## First-Time Freshmen

Students who enroll in college for the first time in the fall term of a given year (called the cohort year) constitute the first-time freshmen cohort. First-time freshmen include the following:

- x A student who has earned no previous college credit hours;
- x A student who has earned college credits while in high school through joint

## Freshmen

Freshmen include all regularly enrolled students who have earned fewer than 30 semester hours of academic credit.

## Full-Time Freshmen

Full-time freshmen are those who are enrolled in 12 or more credit hours in their first fall term in college.

## Gender

Gender is either male or female. Gender information is self-reported by the student at the time of application; however, it is not required information on the application. Institutions collect the information at registration if there is no information on the application. The category "unknown" is not allowed in US reporting. If a student refuses to indicate