Performance Funding Metrics
Percentage of Degrees Awarded in Programs of Strategic Emphasis
(for Bachelor's and Graduate Degrees)

OVERVIEW

OF METHODOLOGY

AND PROCEDURES

STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM *of* FLORIDA
Board of Governors

The Board of Governors for the State University System of Florida approves a methodology document that is used to generate a list of Programs of Strategic Emphasis (PSE) to promote the alignment of the State University System degree program offerings with the economic development and workforce needs of the State. The Board has updated the methodology document several times to reflect that Florida's workforce needs change over time. The original methodology document and program list was created as part of a 2001 Advisory Group on Emerging Technologies. In 2005, the Board updated the methodology and list as part of the 2005-2013 System Strategic Plan, and it was again formally updated in 2009 as part of the 2012-2025 Strategic Plan effort. The last update occurred in November 2013 as part of the 2025 System Strategic Plan Re-Alignment initiative.

As with past iterations of the process, the 2009 update renamed the PSE categories to better demonstrate alignment with recommendations found in the key economic and workforce council reports and available data. The categories in the approved methodology document are used to generate a dynamic list of PSE from the State University System Academic Program Inventory database. The 2013 methodology document is designed such that some disciplines are included at the two digit CIP, others at the four digit CIP, and a few selected programs at the six digit CIP. New programs are captured in the dynamic PSE list as long as they fall under one of the Board approved CIP code categories.

For more information about the Programs of Strategic Emphasis please visit the Board's webpage at: http://www.flbog.edu/pressroom/strategic_emphasis/.

This document provides details on the methodology and procedures used by Board of Governors staff to calculate the Percentage of Degrees Awarded in Programs of Strategic Emphasis (for both bachelor's and graduate level) as reported in the 2025 System Strategic Plan, annual Accountability Reports, University Work Plans, and used in the Board's Performance Based Funding model.

1. <u>Board Staff Analysis of State University Database System (SUDS) Data</u>

   The State University System of Florida Board of Governors (BOG) maintains a student unit record database titled the State University Database System (SUDS). This database contains over 400 data elements about students, faculty and programs at SUS institutions. The Percentage of Degrees Awarded in Programs of Strategic Emphasis is based on data that universities submit to the Board office as part of the Degrees Awarded table on the Degrees Awarded (SIFD) file submission[1]. Degree data is collected three times a year at the end of each term. The SUDS data elements used to determine the Percentage of Degrees Awarded in Programs of Strategic Emphasis are:

   - Degree Program Category [#1082]
   - Degree Program Fraction of Degree Granted [#1083]
   - Reporting Institution [#1045]
   - Term Degree Granted [#1412]
   - Degree Level Granted [#1081]
   - Major Indicator [#2015]

   a. Number of Degrees
      The number of degrees awarded in Programs of Strategic Emphasis is a count of graduates with certain skill sets (not an unduplicated count of degrees), so we include all of the disciplines/CIP codes that a student completes – this includes first majors, second majors, and dual degrees.
      - There are several scenarios when a student can earn a degree from more than one CIP code. By far the most common examples are at the bachelor's level within Business programs – when a student graduates with an even amount of work from two different CIPs (i.e., finance, business, marketing, accounting and political science to name a few). Other examples, which are much less common, occur when a student earns two separate degrees from two separate disciplines ("dual degrees"), or when a student earns only one degree but has done more work in one CIP than the other ("dual majors").
      - The number of degrees used in the calculation of the Percentage of Degrees Awarded in Programs of Strategic Emphasis – for both the numerator (representing the select disciplines identified by the Board) and the denominator (representing all disciplines) – is made by rounding the Degree Program Fraction of Degree Granted [#1083] for each Degree Program Category [#1082] for each student up to '1' and then summing.

   b. Reporting Period
      The reporting year for degrees includes the summer, fall, and spring terms of a given year. The SIFD submission often includes students who were awarded a degree in a previous term that was not previously reported. The total number of degrees used to calculate the degrees awarded in Programs of Strategic Emphasis can include the degrees that were reported out-of-term (also referred to as 'late' degrees). Because it is not unusual for the summer SIFD to include degrees for students who actually graduated in the previous reporting year, the final degree data can include data reported on the following summer SIFD.

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[1] The SUDS Data Dictionary has detailed definitions for the 21 elements included within the Degrees Awarded table and is available at: https://prod.flbog.net:4445/pls/apex/f?p=112:50:5018573689494::NO::P50_ROW_DISPLAY_COLUMNS:50.

2. Academic Program Inventory

In accordance with the requirements of Board of Governors regulation 8.011(4), the Board office maintains the official State University System Academic Degree Program Inventory, which identifies all the approved degree programs for each university within the System.[2] The programs are listed based on the Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) taxonomy that the US Dept. of Education maintains. Universities may have multiple "majors" at the same degree level under one CIP code in accordance with definitions specified in regulation 8.011, and they may have degree programs at different levels within the same CIP. The degree program inventory is updated continuously, which allows for dynamic reports to be generated, such as the Programs of Strategic Emphasis List.

a. Newly Created Programs

Upon final approval, new degree programs are added into the degree program inventory with an effective term date for which enrollments and degrees can be reported. Programs that are terminated by the university also remain in the inventory database, but are noted as terminated with an effective term date after which no new enrollments can be reported. Enrollment data can still be reported for terminated programs until the programs 'teach out' any students who were enrolled at the time the program was terminated.

b. CIP Code Change

It is important to note that program curricula naturally evolve and change over time to keep up with the latest developments within their respective fields of study. Consequently, universities routinely submit requests to the Board office to change the CIP code assigned to an existing degree program in the Board's Academic Program Inventory.   However, a CIP code change cannot have the net effect of adding a new degree program to the academic program inventory by changing the code for a major offered under a currently approved program. CIP Changes are different from program terminations because there is no 'teach out' phase for CIP changes.

Each CIP code change request indicates the future term in which the change will become effective. The effective term is important because any degrees awarded before the effective term are classified under the previous CIP code and degrees awarded after the CIP change are reported as the new CIP code.

c. Programs of Strategic Emphasis (PSE)[3]

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3. Using Outcomes

Accountability Reports

Board IR staff provide the Percentage of Bachelor's and Graduate Degrees Awarded within the Programs of Strategic Emphasis to each university Data Administrator for their review as well as a static snap-shot of the CIPs that are included in the Programs of Strategic Emphasis for the annual Accountability Reports. Any data discrepancies between university and Board calculations are resolved prior to the printing of the Accountability Report. The data reported in the Accountability Report is subsequently used in the University Work Plans and the Performance-Based Funding Model (PBF).

- The 2012-13 Accountability Report reported the Percentage of Strategic Emphasis Degrees Awarded based on the 2009 methodology of the Areas of Programmatic Strategic Emphasis – that expired at the end of summer 2014.

- The 2013-14 Accountability Report reported the Percentage of Strategic Emphasis Degrees Awarded based on the 2013 *methodology* of the Programs of Strategic Emphasis (PSE) – effective fall 2014.

University Work Plans

University Data Administrators use the Accountability Report data to develop the out-year data goals that are provided as part of the University's Work Plans.

- The June 2014-15 University Work Plans reported the Percentage of Strategic Emphasis Degrees Awarded based on the 2009 methodology of the Areas of Programmatic Strategic Emphasis – that expired at the end of summer 2014.

- The June 2015 University Work Plans reported the Percentage of Strategic Emphasis Degrees Awarded based on the 2013 *methodology* of the Programs of Strategic Emphasis (PSE) – effective fall 2014.

Performance Based Funding Model

In 2014, the Board approved a new Performance-Based Funding Model that included ten metrics – two of which were based on degrees awarded within Programs of Strategic Emphasis at the baccalaureate and graduate levels.

- In 2014, the first cycle of PBF used the Percentage of Bachelor's and Graduate Degrees Awarded within the Programs of Strategic Emphasis that was based on the 2009 *methodology* of the Areas of Programmatic Strategic Emphasis – that expired at the end of summer 2014.

- In 2015, the second cycle of PBF used the Percentage of Bachelor's and Graduate Degrees Awarded within the Programs of Strategic Emphasis that was based on the 2013 *methodology* of the Programs of Strategic Emphasis (PSE) – effective fall 2014.