

***SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER***  
***Revised GRAD ACT Annual Evaluation (Year 1)***

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## *Performance Objective*

### **1. Student Success**

The Southern University Board of Supervisors approved the establishment of baseline data, benchmarks or goals, and six year targets for performance by the Southern University Law Center contained in Attachment D of the GRAD Act Template for Establishing Initial Performance Agreement Baseline, Benchmarks, and 6-year Targets. The GRAD Act provisions applicable to the Law Center relative to student success included the following targeted measures:

- (a) 1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Retention Rate
- (b) Same institution Graduation Rate
- (c) Institutional Median LSAT Scores
- (d) Institutional Passage rate on the Bar Examination

With respect to retention, the Southern University Law Center's baseline data included actual data for the 1<sup>st</sup> year students enrolled in Fall 2006, Fall 2007, and 2008 that were retained as 2<sup>nd</sup> year law students in the Fall 2007, Fall 2008, and Fall 2009 respectively to calculate a three year average of the 579 first-year students enrolled over the aforementioned three year period, 473 were retained as second year students for a 3 year average baseline rate of 81.6%. For purposes of the 2011 annual report the following data is applicable

- ◆ 156 enrolled in Fall 2009
- ◆ 130 retained in Fall 2010
- ◆ Calculated Rate - 83.333%

The Southern University System Board of Supervisors has promulgated policies that require each campus or constituent unit of the Southern University System to implement enrollment management strategies/policies that would enable the campus/constituent institution to achieve cohort graduation rates, retention rates, and graduation productivity goals that are consistent with institutional peers. With respect to 1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> year retention rate goals at the Southern University Law Center, the enrollment management and retention strategies/policies that have led to an increase in retention rates include increasing the number of students that participated in the Law Center's four week Summer Pre-Law Program prior to matriculation as a first year law student. Students participating in the Summer Pre-Law program are afforded an opportunity to improve their study and analytical skills which are needed to successfully matriculate through the first year of law school and eventually graduate. In addition, the Law Center intensified its efforts with respect to the Law Center's School Year Academic Assistance Program and the Law Center's counseling services by pouring more resources into the Academic Assistance Program and counseling services. More upper-class teaching assistants were hired to work with first year law students to develop and improve the study skills and analytical skills of first year law students.

With respect to the same institution graduation rate, the Law Center's baseline data included actual data for first year full-time students enrolled in fall 2004, Fall 2005, and Fall 2006 who graduated within three years in Spring 2007, Spring 2008, Spring 2009 respectively which was

used to calculate a three-year average. Of the 415 first-year full-time students enrolled during the aforementioned three year period, 332 graduated in three years for a three-year average of 80%.

For purposes of the 2011 annual report the following data is applicable:

- ◆ 131 Full-time First Year Students Enrolled in Fall 2007
- ◆ 112 Full-time Cohort From Fall Graduated in Spring 2010
- ◆ Calculated Rate - 85.496%

As stated previously, the Southern University Board of Supervisors has promulgated policies to implement enrollment management strategies/policies that would enable the Law Center to achieve cohort graduation rates that are consistent with institutional peers. With respect to graduation rates at the Law Center, the enrollment management strategies/policies that have led to increased graduation rates are attributable to increased resources being poured into the Office of Academic Success. The Office of Academic Success has intensified efforts to provide supplemental resources to students who have completed their first year so that those students can graduate in a timely manner. In addition, the Office of Academic Success has worked more closely and cohesively with the Law Center's Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the Vice Chancellor for Institutional Accountability and Evening Division, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, and Associate Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management.

Other student Success Measures  
Graduation Productivity – 2011 Annual Report

- ◆ 135 Completers in 2009-10
  - ◆ 714.5 FTE in 2009-10
  - ◆ Calculated Ratio – 18.894%
- Award Productivity – 2011 Annual Report
- ◆ 135 Completers in 2009-10
  - ◆ 714.5 FTE in 2009-2010
  - ◆ Calculated Ratio - 18.894%

Median profession School Entrance Exam Score of Entering Class

- ◆ Institutional Median LSAT Scores-Average Fall 2007, 2008, 2009 1<sup>st</sup> year -145
- ◆ Institutional Median LSAT Score – Fall 2010 - 145

Institutional Passage Rates on Bar Exam for 1<sup>st</sup> Time July Test Takers

The baseline data for the Southern University Law Center included actual data for 2007, 2008, and 2009 graduates who sat for the July 2007, July 2008 and July 2009 bar examination as first-time takers. Of the 301 graduates for the aforementioned respective period who took the aforementioned respective July bar examinations, 182 passed the exams for a three year average of 60.46%. The state average for the respective period was 69.9%. Hence the Law Center's

institutional rate as compared to the state rate for the respective three year period was 86.76%,  
calculated as follows:  $\frac{\text{Institutional Rate (60.46\%)}}{\text{State Rate (69.69\%)}} = 86.76\%$

For purposes of the 2011 annual report the following data is available

- ◆ 85 graduates sitting for July 2010 bar exam for first-time
- ◆ 50 graduates passing exam
- ◆ Calculated Rate (Institutional Passage Rate) – 58.8%
- ◆ State Passage Rate - 69.9%
- ◆ Institutional Passage Rate/State Passage Rate: 58.8/69.9
- ◆ Calculated as a percent: 84.1%

### **3. Workforce and Economic Development**

The Southern University Board of Supervisors approved the establishment of baseline data benchmarks or goals, and six year targets for performance by the Southern University Law Center relative to Workforce and Economic Development as contained in Attachment D of the GRAD Act Template for Establishing Initial Performance Agreement Baseline, Benchmarks and 6-year Targets. With respect to workforce and Economic Development, the Law Center was required to develop a targeted measure for placement rates for graduates. The Law Center's baseline data included placement rates on a 3 year average for 2007, 2008, and 2009 graduates. Of the 367 graduates for the aforementioned respective period, 274 were placed in jobs within 9 months after graduation for same aforementioned respective period for a three year average baseline rate of 74.65%. For purposes of 2011 annual report the following data is applicable:

Number of 2010 graduates 133.  
Number Placed in Jobs 89.  
Calculated Percent 66.9%.

The placement rate for Law Center graduates mirrors the downturn in jobs available to law graduates due to the national recession and economic downturn. The economic downturn is expected to affect graduates for 2011 class negatively as well. The prospects for that class are not rosy and are expected to be very gloomy for 2011 graduates.

#### **4. Institutional Efficiency and Accountability**

Upon entering the initial performance agreement, the Southern University Law Center was required to adhere to a schedule established by the Southern University Board of Supervisors to increase nonresident tuition / fee amounts that were not less than the average tuition;/fee amount charged to Louisiana residents attending public Historically Black Law Schools in other Southern Regional Education Board states. The Law Center developed a plan to increase non-resident tuition/fee amounts by \$1,000 per year as follows:

<u>Nonresident Tuition/Fee Amounts</u>					
<u>Base-Year</u>	<u>2009-2010</u>	<u>2010-2011</u>	<u>2011-2012</u>	<u>2012-2013</u>	<u>2013-2014</u>
	\$4,600	\$5,600	\$6,600	\$7,600	\$8,600
	<u>2014-2015</u>	<u>2015-2016</u>	<u>2016-2017</u>		
	\$9,600	\$10,600	\$11,600		

With respect to the plan to increase non-resident tuition/fees, the Law Center anticipates that for the 2010-11, 2011-12, and 2012-13 academic year, the impact of non-resident tuition/fee increases will not detrimentally affect enrollment while increasing self-generated revenue for the Law Center due to increases in nonresident tuition/fees. Beyond the 2012-12 academic year, it would be difficult to speculate what impact the increased nonresident tuition/fees would have on enrollment and revenue for 2014-15 and beyond.

The total tuition and fees charged to nonresidents for the 2009-2010 academic year was \$4,600. The actual peer non-resident tuition/fee amount for the 2009-2010 academic year was 11,600. The difference between the peer non-resident tuition/fee amount and the Southern University Law Center nonresident tuition/fee amount was \$7,000. For the 2011 annual report, the following data is available:

Southern University Law Center 2010-2011 Non-resident tuition/fee amount - \$5,600.

◆ 2010-11 Peer Non-Resident tuition/fee amount \$11,600.

◆ Calculated Percent difference from peer amounts 51.73%.