

Educational Effectiveness

Institutional effectiveness at Saint Paul School of Theology is measured through the following key elements:

- Academic and administrative goals and outcomes consistent with the mission and values of Saint Paul School of Theology;
- Implementation of an institution-wide assessment plan that measures achievement of the academic and administrative goals and outcomes;
- Use of assessment findings to improve programs and services;
- Compliance with the accreditation standards of the Higher Learning Commission and the Association of Theological Schools.

Educational effectiveness at Saint Paul is measured in both direct and indirect methods by the following key elements:

- Achievement of the student learning outcome(s) identified for specific courses and for the student's designated degree program;
- Retention and persistence rates;
- Graduation rates.

Graduation Rate

Since Saint Paul is a graduate level-only institution, we are not able to calculate the graduation rate of degree-seeking, first-time, full-time undergraduate students (as defined by the U.S. Department of Education). However, Saint Paul defines its graduation rate as degree-seeking students who have completed their program within 150% of normal completion time for the degree (4.5-6 years depending on degree).

This information is calculated by cohort and degree program and is presented below. A cohort is defined as a group of students who began their program within the same academic year. The most recently completed cohort for whom 150% of normal completion time has lapsed for all degree programs is Cohort 1819, which includes students who began their degree during the 2018-2019 academic year. Because cohorts for some degree programs are quite small, the data is presented as a percentage of the degree/cohort, as well as the number of students the percentage describes.

- **Cohort 1920 graduation rate = 51.7%** (15 out of 29 students)
 - MDIV – 46.4% (13/28)
 - MACM – 0% (1/0)
 - MA(TS) – 100% (1/1)
 - DMIN – 0% (0/0)
- **Cohort 1819 graduation rate = 57.14%** (20 out of 35 students)
 - MDIV – 55% (11/20)
 - MACM – 50% (1/2)
 - MA(TS) – 0% (0/5)
 - DMIN – 100% (8/8)
- **Cohort 1718 graduation rate = 52.4%** (32 out of 61 students)
 - MDIV – 58.6% (18/31)
 - MACM – 0% (0/5)
 - MA(TS) – 0% (0/3)
 - DMIN – 63.6% (14/22)

- **Cohort 1617 graduation rate = 51.5%** (17 out of 33 students)
 - MDIV – 36.84% (7/19)
 - MACM – 0% (0/3)
 - MA(TS) – 0% (0/0)
 - DMIN – 90.91% (10/11)
- **Cohort 1516 graduation rate = 52.4%** (32 out of 61 students)
 - MDIV – 58.6% (18/31)
 - MACM – 0% (0/5)
 - MA(TS) – 0% (0/3)
- **Cohort 1314 graduation rate = 54.2%** (32 out of 59 students)
 - MDIV – 58.1% (18/31)
 - MACM – 20% (1/5; 1 persisting)
 - MA(TS) – 100% (1/1)
 - DMIN – 54.5% (12/22; 3 persisting)
 - DMIN – 63.6% (14/22)

Retention Rate

Saint Paul defines its retention rate as a one-year snapshot from the degree program's primary semester of admission (fall-to-fall for master's students; winter-to-winter for doctoral students). For example, of the master's degree students enrolled in Fall 2015, how many are still enrolled in Fall 2016?

Overall academic year retention rates are presented below, including master's and doctoral students. [For a more detailed report, delineated by degree, please click here.](#)

- 2019 – 2020 = 92% retention
- 2018 – 2019 = 90% retention
- 2017 – 2018 = 79% retention
- 2016 – 2017 = 61% retention
- 2015 – 2016 = 74% retention

Persistence Rate

Saint Paul defines its persistence rate as those students who have maintained enrollment toward degree completion. This calculation includes those students who may not have completed their degree within the 150% of normal completion time (as seen in the graduation rate) but are still enrolled toward completion.

This information is calculated by cohort and is compared by the number of years since cohort admission. Degree persistence data is collected as of Fall 2015. Overall cohort persistence rates as of the 2015-2016 academic year are presented below. [For a more detailed report, please click here.](#)

- Cohort 1920 = 91% persisting
- Cohort 1819 = 87% persisting
- Cohort 1718 = 86% persisting
- Cohort 1617 = 87% persisting
- Cohort 1516 = 91% persisting

Placement Rates

Placement rates measures employment or further study one year after graduation.

- 2018 - 2019 95%
- 2017 - 2018 93%
- 2016 - 2017 93%

Student Satisfaction

Based on the 18-question survey administered to all students each Spring semester, Saint Paul rated 92% in overall student satisfaction.

[Academic Assessment Plan](#)