

2025-2026 FACTS & FIGURES

GLOSSARY



GLOSSARY

Term	Definitions	Page
<i>4-Year Graduation Rate (IPEDS)</i>	This rate is calculated as the total number of first-time <i>baccalaureate</i> seeking freshmen who graduate before their 5th fall, divided by the adjusted cohort.	103
<i>6-Year Enrollment in 7th Fall (IPEDS)</i>	Those in the freshman cohort still enrolled at UAB as of 200% normal time to completion.	103
<i>6-Year Graduation Rate (IPEDS)</i>	This rate is calculated as the total number of first-time <i>baccalaureate</i> seeking freshmen who graduate before their 7th fall, divided by the adjusted cohort.	103
<i>6-Year Success Rate</i>	Success rate = <i>6-year graduation rate</i> + <i>6-year transfers-out</i> + continued enrollment in the 7th fall.	103
<i>6-Year Transfers-Out</i>	As reported to IPEDS.	103
<i>Academic Year</i>	The academic year consists of Fall, Spring and Summer terms, e.g. Fall 2025, Spring 2026, Summer 2026.	
<i>Advanced Professionals</i>	Advanced Professionals are interns, residents, and postdoctoral fellows who are here at UAB to participate in specialized training beyond their academic or professional degrees. They are not included in the official totals for headcount reporting.	48, 75
<i>American Indian or Alaska Native</i>	A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America) who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community attachment.	Section 46-103, 108
<i>Asian</i>	A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian Subcontinent, including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.	Section 46-103, 108
<i>Award Level</i>	IPEDS Award Levels for degree completions. See each glossary entry for details. 1 – <i>Postsecondary Certificates</i> requiring under 30 credit hours 2 – <i>Postsecondary Certificates</i> requiring 30-59 credit hours 3 – <i>Postbaccalaureate Certificates</i> 5 – <i>Bachelor's Degree</i> 6 – <i>Postbaccalaureate Degree</i> 7 – <i>Master's Degree</i> 8 – <i>Post-Master's Certificate</i> 17 - <i>Doctor's Degree (Research/Scholarship)</i> 18 – <i>Doctor's Degree (Professional Practice)</i>	92-96
<i>Baccalaureate Degree</i>	Degree requiring at least 4 but not more than 5 years of full-time equivalent college credits (IPEDS <i>Award Level</i> 5).	91-99, 103
<i>Black or African American</i>	A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.	Section 46-103, 108

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<i>Blended Course Tuition</i>	Blended courses are charged at the standard on-campus tuition rate.	153
<i>Campus Dining Fee</i>	The campus dining fee is charged to undergraduates enrolling for 12 hours or more per semester during the fall and spring terms.	100
<i>Certificates (all)</i>	All certificate awards at IPEDS <i>Award Levels</i> 1 and 2 (<i>post-secondary</i>), 6 (<i>post-baccalaureate</i>), 8 (<i>post-master's</i>) or their former equivalent reporting levels.	46, 84-98
<i>Classification</i>	Student classification based upon overall credit hours earned or type of study, e.g. Freshman, Senior, Graduate, Postbaccalaureate Degree Seeking.	Section 45-103
<i>Credit Hours (CHP)</i>	Credits are tied to the course college in Banner. DMD, MD, and OD programs in Dentistry, Medicine, and Optometry do not generate reported credit hours.	46, 77-81
<i>Credit Hours by School</i>	Dentistry CHP includes Dental Assisting courses and credit hours from Clinical Dentistry and Oral Biology. Honors College CHP does not include honors courses taught for course credit in the Honors College by other schools/college. Joint Health Sciences CHP includes courses taught in course departments of Clinical Dentistry and Oral Biology which are within the School of Dentistry. Medicine Graduate One courses are non-professional courses taught for course credit. Optometry CHP includes courses taught in course department of Vision Science within the School of Optometry. Provost CHP includes ROTC and Cooperative Education course credits.	77-81
<i>DSc</i>	From fall 2010 through summer 2021, DSc was reported under Doctor's-Other (<i>Award Level</i> 19), and EdD was reported under Doctor's-Professional Practice (<i>Award Level</i> 18), per Alabama Commission on Higher Education (ACHE) guidelines. Beginning in Fall 2021, both DSc and EdD. degrees are reported under the Doctor's-Research/Scholarship (<i>Award Level</i> 17), consistent with National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) and Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) guidelines.	88
<i>Doctoral Degree (all)</i>	Both professional practice and research/scholarship doctoral degrees, which require advanced work beyond the master's level.	Section 45-103

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<i>Doctoral Degree (Professional Practice)</i>	A doctor's degree that is conferred upon completion of a program providing the knowledge and skills for the recognition, credential, or license required for professional practice (IPEDS Award Level 18). The degree is awarded after a period of study such that the total time to the degree, including both pre-professional and professional preparation, equals at least six full-time equivalent academic years. These include the DMD, MD, and OD degrees formerly classified as "first professional". At UAB, this category also includes DNP, DPT, OTD, DrPH, and DScPT degrees.	46, 48, 92-98
<i>Doctoral Degree (Research/Scholarship)</i>	A PhD or other doctor's degree that requires advanced work beyond the master's level, including the preparation and defense of a dissertation based on original research, or the planning and execution of an original project demonstrating substantial artistic or scholarly achievement (IPEDS Award Level 17). At UAB, this category includes DSc, EdD, and all PhD degrees.	46, 48, 92-98
<i>EEO Categorization</i>	Standardized job groupings used to classify employees based on the nature of their work. These categories ensure <i>workforce</i> data are reported consistently, and support compliance with federal equal opportunity regulations.	
<i>Eligible Noncitizen</i>	All students who completed high school or a GED equivalency within the United States (including DACA and undocumented students) and who were not on an F-1 nonimmigrant student visa at the time of high school graduation.	
<i>Enrollment</i>	Enrollment count is as of fall census. All counts are for students enrolled in credit courses. Students appear under their primary program and school/college at time of census. Excluded from the count are students only auditing courses, taking only continuing education or other noncredit courses, and <i>advanced professionals</i> .	<i>Section from 45-103</i>
<i>Entering Undergraduate Transfer</i>	Also known as the Fall Transfer Cohort, this includes transfer students who started summer semester and remained enrolled in fall.	46, 64-66
<i>Faculty</i>	Faculty designation is based on the <i>EEO Categorization</i> for the employee's primary appointment and is assigned by Compensation per the Federal EEOC guidelines.	105-109, 111-116
<i>Faculty Rank</i>	Faculty rank as assigned in Oracle HR at the time of employee census each fall.	116

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Term	Definitions	Page
<i>First-Time Freshman</i>	A student who has no prior postsecondary experience attending any institution for the first time at the undergraduate level. First-year students include students enrolled in the fall term who attended college for the first time in the prior summer term, and students who entered with advanced standing (college credits or recognized postsecondary credential earned before graduation from high school).	46, 62-63, 71, 99, 103
<i>First Generation</i>	Student self-reported that parents did not attend college as of first fall enrollment.	103
<i>First Professional</i>	Student enrolled in one of the following degree programs at UAB: DMD (Dentistry), MD (Medicine), OD (Optometry).	48, 51, 55, 71, 97
<i>Full-Time</i>	Undergraduate students taking twelve (12) or more hours in the term, graduate students taking nine (9) or more hours in the term, and all students in the professional DMD, MD, and OD programs.	Section from 45-103
<i>Graduate Certificates/ Specialist</i>	<i>Post-baccalaureate certificates</i> requiring completion of an organized program of study beyond the <i>bachelor's</i> (IPEDS Award Level 6), and <i>post-master's certificates</i> requiring completion of an organized program beyond the <i>master's degree</i> , but does not meet the requirements of academic degrees at the doctor's level (IPEDS Award Level 8). This category also includes the Education Specialist degree when reporting to ACHE.	46, 57, 67, 75, 91
<i>Graduate Non-Doctoral</i>	All EdS and <i>master's degrees</i> , all post-masters and <i>graduate certificates</i> , and graduate non-degree programs.	48
<i>Graduate One</i>	Graduate Level One courses typically carry course numbers between 500 to 699. Courses offered by the School of Education with course numbers 700-729 are also classified as Graduate One.	78-81
<i>Graduate Two</i>	Graduate Level Two courses typically carry course numbers above 700.	78-81
<i>Graduate/ Professional Total</i>	Total graduate and professional enrollment, excluding <i>advanced professionals</i> , which is reported to state (ACHE) and federal agencies (IPEDS/NCES), and is used for most other surveys and questionnaires.	Section from 45-103
<i>Graduation Rate (6-Year)</i>	This rate is calculated as the total number of first-time <i>baccalaureate</i> seeking freshmen who graduate before their 7th fall, divided by the adjusted cohort.	99
<i>Graduation Rates</i>	The graduation rates for the two most recent cohorts are preliminary until reported officially to IPEDS. Each cohort is reported after their 7th spring (e.g. Feb 2026 for the Fall 2019 cohort).	99
<i>Graduation Year</i>	The federal reporting period for completions is July 1 through June 30. At UAB, this is reported as summer, fall, and spring semesters.	46, 92-98

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Term	Definitions	Page
<i>Headcount Enrollment</i>	Enrollment count is as of fall census. All counts are for students enrolled in credit courses. Students appear under their primary program and school/college at time of census.	<i>Section 45-103</i>
<i>Headcount Exclusions</i>	Excluded from the official headcount are students who are only auditing courses, students taking only continuing education or other noncredit courses, and <i>advanced professionals</i> .	<i>Section 45-103</i>
<i>Highest Degree (Faculty)</i>	Highest degree recorded in Oracle HR at the time of employee census each fall.	114-116
<i>Hispanic or Latino</i>	A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.	<i>Section 46-103, 108</i>
<i>Honors College Credit Hour Production</i>	Honors College credit hours do not include honors classes taught for course credit in the Honors College by other schools/college.	77-78, 80
<i>Institutional Funds</i>	Includes institutional employment.	102
<i>Job Category</i>	Based on the EEO Categorization for the employee's job assigned by Compensation per Federal EEOC guidelines. The Professional category is split into <i>Faculty</i> and <i>Nonfaculty</i> .	105-109
<i>Legal Sex</i>	Self-reported as recorded in the official system of record at the time of census. For students, this is Banner, with options male/female/not reported. For employees, this is Oracle HR with options male/female.	<i>Section 45-103, 105-113</i>
<i>Lower Division UG</i>	Undergraduate Lower Division courses typically carry course numbers below 300.	79-81
<i>Master's Degree</i>	Degrees requiring completion of a program of study of at least the full-time equivalent of 1 but not more than 2 academic years of work beyond the bachelor's degree (IPEDS Award Level 7).	<i>Section 45-103</i>
<i>Mean ACT (entering freshmen)</i>	Mean ACT Composite score. It does not include scores for students admitted as test optional.	46, 61, 103
<i>Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander</i>	A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.	<i>Section 46-103, 108</i>
<i>Nondegree Graduate</i>	Graduate INTO Pathway students and other non-degree seeking students.	57, 75
<i>Online Course</i>	A course with a schedule type of Q in Banner.	100-101
<i>Organizational Area</i>	Hospital includes UAB Hospital and UAB Hospital LLC but excludes HSF. University includes all campus employees.	105-107
<i>Other Countries (source)</i>	All students sourced from outside the United States, whether U.S. Nonresident (formerly nonresident aliens) or U.S. citizens/nationals.	<i>Section 45-103</i>
<i>Other Metro Counties (source)</i>	Alabama counties of Blount, Shelby, St. Clair, and Walker.	<i>Section 45-103</i>

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Term	Definitions	Page
<i>Other U.S. States (source)</i>	U.S. states other than Alabama, including U.S. Territories and Overseas Military Addresses.	Section from 45-103
<i>Other Undergraduate</i>	Students classified as Transient, Temporary, Dual Enrolled, Concurrently Enrolled, or Standalone Certificate-Seeking.	57, 59, 65, 75
<i>Post Master's Certificate</i>	Educational Specialist (EdS) program students.	92-98
<i>Postbaccalaureate</i>	An award that requires completion of an organized program of study requiring 18 credit hours beyond the bachelor's; designed for persons who have completed a <i>baccalaureate degree</i> but do not meet the requirements of academic degrees carrying the title of master.	57, 59, 65-66, 75, 92-98
<i>Postsecondary Certificate</i>	There are 2 IPEDS <i>Award Levels</i> . Level 1 Postsecondary Certificates require fewer than 30 credit hours. Level 2 Postsecondary Certificates require at least 30 but fewer than 60 credit hours.	92-98
<i>Programs Offered</i>	Degrees and certificates offered at UAB. https://www.uab.edu/registrar/images/degrees-offered-at-uab.pdf .	82-91
<i>Race/Ethnicity</i>	Categories developed by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in 1997 that are used to describe groups to which individuals belong, identify with, or belong in the eyes of the community. Categories do not denote scientific definitions of anthropological origins. Designations are used to categorize U.S. citizens, U.S. residents, and other <i>eligible non-citizens</i> . Individuals are asked to first designate ethnicity as: <i>Hispanic or Latino</i> , or Not Hispanic or Latino. Second, individuals are asked to indicate one or more races that apply among the following: <i>American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander</i> , and/or <i>White</i> . If the student is a U.S. <i>Nonresident</i> , they are reported as such rather than in any of the racial/ethnic categories described above.	46, 49-56, 65, 67, 69, 108
<i>Race/Ethnicity Unknown</i>	The category used to report students or employees whose race and ethnicity are not known.	Section 45-103 108
<i>Retention Rate</i>	The percentage of full-time first-time bachelors degree-seeking undergraduates who re-enrolled in their second fall, regardless of spring or summer enrollment.	99
<i>Retention Rate (first spring)</i>	The percentage of full-time first-time bachelors degree-seeking undergraduates who re-enrolled in the spring immediately following their first fall.	99
<i>Source (student origin)</i>	Source (student origin) is based on admit, home, and mailing state information available at time of census and is not the same as tuition or student residency.	Section from 45-103

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Term	Definitions	Page
<i>State Funds</i>	Includes state-funded scholarships awarded to UAB students in Dentistry, Medicine, and Optometry.	102
<i>Tenure Status</i>	Whether a faculty member has been awarded tenure (tenured) at UAB, is on a tenure track, or holds a non-tenure-earning appointment.	111-113
<i>Tuition and Fees</i>	Board-approved tuition and fees only. Tuition Rate is for each semester hour of coursework, except for: Dental Assisting, Dentistry (DMD) and Optometry (OD), where the rate is for each term, and Medicine (MD), which is the annual charge rate. Campus Dining Fee rate is per fall/spring semester.	100-101, 152-155
<i>Two or more races (formerly Multicultural)</i>	A person having origins in two or more races or ethnicities.	Section 45-103
<i>UAB Affiliated Agencies (Workforce)</i>	UAB Health Services Foundation, UAB Health System, Callahan Eye Hospital, OSF, Cooper Green HSA, VIVA Health, Med West, Baptist Montclair, Southern Research Institution (SRI), Valley Foundation, St. Vincent's.	105-109
<i>Undergraduate Certificates</i>	Postsecondary certificates requiring less than 30 credit hours and postsecondary certificates requiring at least 30 but less than 60 credit hours (IPEDS Award Levels 1 and 2).	96-98
<i>Undergraduate Enrollment</i>	Students enrolled in all baccalaureate, postbaccalaureate, and undergraduate certificate programs, and those in undergraduate non-degree programs.	46, 49-56
<i>Underrepresented Minority</i>	Minority includes <i>American Indian or Alaskan Native, Asian, Black or African American, Hispanic/Latino, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, Two or More Races</i> , and <i>U.S. Nonresident</i> .	103
<i>Upper Division UG</i>	Undergraduate Upper Division courses typically carry course numbers between 300 and 499.	79-81
<i>U.S. Nonresident (formerly Nonresident Alien)</i>	A person who is not a citizen or national of the United States and is in the country on a visa or temporary basis without the right to remain indefinitely. In IPEDS and other official reporting, U.S. Nonresidents are reported separately rather than in any of the racial/ethnic categories provided.	49-56
<i>White</i>	A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.	Section 46-103, 108
<i>Workforce</i>	Employees in the UAB workforce include student workers, graduate assistants, hospital residents, postdoctoral employees, and adjunct instructors (credentialed course instructors). Postdoctoral trainees, volunteers, and vendors are excluded. Employees are included in their primary appointment and occupational classification.	105-116