

RETENTION

Merit University is committed to providing an educational environment and support system that encourages students to achieve their educational goals of graduation and employment for which they were trained. MU offers challenging courses of study so that it attracts a quality student body. Student persistence, which includes remaining enrolled and graduating, is important for the university. In order to achieve effective retention results, the entire community of the university, students, faculty, staff, and administration, must be committed.

Retention Rate Percentage (RRP)

MU considers students in a cohort to be retained if they enroll at MU for four consecutive quarters (one year). **Retention rate** is measured by the proportion of students who have been enrolled for four consecutive quarters to the total number of enrolled students in the cohort. The retention rates by cohort are shown in Table below.

**Table
MU Student Retention**

Year / Cohort	Program Start Date (month/year)	Number Started	Total Retained Students	Cohort Retention Rate (%)	Annual Retention rate (%)
2016	Jan-16	1	1	100	67
	Apr-16	1	1	100	
	Jul-16	1	0	0	
	Oct-16				
2018	Jan-18				80
	Apr-18	1	1	100	
	Jul-18	4	4	100	
	Oct-18	5	2	40	
2019	Jan-19	4	3	75	90
	Apr-19	3	3	100	
	Jul-19	6	5	83	
	Oct-19	2	2	100	
2020	Jan-20	2	2	100	87
	Apr-20	1	1	100	
	Jul-20				
	Oct-20	5	3	60	
2021	Jan-21	3	1	33	73
	Apr-21				
	Jul-21	7	6	86	
	Oct-21	2	2	100	

For example, January 2021 Cohort retention rate is 33%, July 2021 Cohort is 86%, October 2021 Cohort is 100%, and 2021 Annual Retention Rate is 73%.

The one-year retention rates for 2016-2021 years are shown below.

