Metrics for State Universities

There are three sets of metrics that are used by the State of Florida to evaluate Florida State University’s performance. As a result, these metrics are among the factors FSU considers when making strategic and funding decisions. The sets of metrics are the following:

- **Preeminence metrics** are used annually by the State to designate “Preeminent State Research Universities” and Preeminent Universities must meet 11 or more of these metrics. Preeminent Universities are eligible for supplemental funding from the State of Florida.

- **Performance Metrics** are used annually to evaluate all State Universities. State funding is changed (upward or downward) based on each university’s performance.

- **US News & World Report Metrics** have been embraced by the Florida Board of Governors who have set the goal of having the University of Florida ranked in the top 10 of public university’s and Florida State University ranked in the top 25 of public universities. Funding has and continues to be made available to help Florida Universities achieve these goals.

These three sets of metrics are listed below.

**Preeminence Metrics Summary**

- An average weighted grade point average of 4.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale and an average SAT score of 1800 or higher on a 2400-point scale or 1200 or higher on a 1600-point scale for fall semester incoming freshmen.

- A top-50 ranking on at least two well-known and highly respected national public university rankings, including, but not limited to, the U.S. News and World Report rankings.

- A freshman retention rate of 90 percent or higher for full-time, first-time-in-college students.

- A four-year graduation rate of 60 percent or higher for full-time, first-time-in-college students.

- Six or more faculty members at the state university who are members of a national academy.

- Total annual research expenditures, including federal research expenditures, of $200 million or more.

- Total annual research expenditures in diversified nonmedical sciences of $150 million or more.
A top-100 university national ranking for research expenditures in five or more science, technology, engineering, or mathematics fields of study.

One hundred or more total patents awarded by the United States Patent and Trademark Office for the most recent three-year period.

Four hundred or more doctoral degrees awarded annually, including professional doctoral degrees awarded in medical and health care disciplines.

Two hundred or more postdoctoral appointees annually.

An endowment of $500 million or more.

State of Florida Performance Metrics

- Percent of Bachelor’s Graduates Enrolled or Employed ($25,000+) in the US one year after graduation.
- Median Wages of Bachelor’s Graduates Employed Full-time One Year After Graduation.
- Cost to the Student – Net Tuition & Fees per 120 credit hours.
- Six Year FTIC Graduation Rate.
- Academic Progress Rate – 2nd year retention with GPA above 2.0.
- Bachelor's Degrees within Programs of Strategic Emphasis.
- University Access Rate – percent of undergraduates with a Pell-grant.
- Graduate degrees within programs of Strategic Emphasis.
- Number of Faculty Awards.
- National Rank Higher than Predicted by the Financial Resources Ranking Based on U.S. and World News.

*Note that the last two metrics vary by University. Those listed above are FSU’s metrics.

Summary of Key US News & World Report Metrics

- Peer Assessment
- High School Counselor Ranking
- Faculty Compensation
- Faculty with Terminal Degrees
- Percent Full-time Faculty
- Student to Faculty ratio
- Class Size Indicator
- Average Freshman retention
- Average six-year Graduation Rate
- Acceptance Rate
1. Freshman in top 10% of High School
2. Test Scores
3. Per student expenditures
4. Graduation rate performance
5. Alumni giving

Strategic Planning within the State of Florida Educational System

The Florida Board of Governors (FBOG) has adopted a strategic plan that extends to 2025. All Florida public university strategic plans must be approved by the University’s Board of Trustees and the State Board of Governors and align with the FBOG plan.

The complete FBOG strategic plan can be found online at [https://www.flbog.edu/pressroom/_doc/2025_System_Strategic_Plan_Amended_FINAL.pdf](https://www.flbog.edu/pressroom/_doc/2025_System_Strategic_Plan_Amended_FINAL.pdf)

Page 12 of that document summarized the plan in a single table which is reproduced below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM GOALS</th>
<th>EXCELLENCE</th>
<th>PRODUCTIVITY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TEACHING &amp; LEARNING</td>
<td>Strengthen Quality &amp; Reputation of Academic Programs and Universities</td>
<td>Increase Degree Productivity and Program Efficiency</td>
<td>Increase the Number of Degrees Awarded within Programs of Strategic Emphasis</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCHOLARSHIP, RESEARCH, &amp; INNOVATION</td>
<td>Strengthen Quality &amp; Reputation of Scholarship, Research, and Innovation</td>
<td>Increase Research Activity and Attract More External Funding</td>
<td>Increase Commercialization Activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMMUNITY &amp; BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT</td>
<td>Strengthen Quality &amp; Recognition of Commitment to Community and Business Engagement</td>
<td>Increase Community and Business Engagement</td>
<td>Increase Community and Business Workforce</td>
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</table>

Florida State University Strategic Plan for 2017 to 2022 is available online at [http://strategicplan.fsu.edu](http://strategicplan.fsu.edu)

The six goals of FSU’s strategic plan are summarized below.

Goal 1: Deepening our Distinctive Commitment to Continuous Innovation

1. Expand and incentivize FSU’s capacity for innovation
2. Increase the University’s role as an engine for Florida’s economic development
3. Translate FSU research, scholarship, and creative production into applications that enhance and develop economic development and quality of life

Goal 2: Amplifying Excellence across our Academic and Research Programs

1. Define and develop and FSU “faculty for the future”
2. Enhance the quality of graduate education to achieve preeminence in strategically important areas of study and research
3. Strengthen the excellence and reputation of the University’s professional schools
4. Encourage and incentivize high-impact, interdisciplinary and inter-college initiatives that address pressing societal issues.
5. Expand innovative teaching strategies
6. Enhance FSU’s strategy for expanding its global footprint and fostering a culturally rich learning environment on campus

Goal 3: Realizing the Full Potential of Diversity and Inclusion

1. Increase the diversity of FSU’s student body, faculty and staff
2. Expand and strengthen academic and co-curricular programs, as well as administrative initiatives that increase diversity and inclusiveness
3. Develop globally and culturally competent students who are prepared to succeed in an increasingly multicultural and international society

Goal 4: Ensuring Student Success on Campus and Beyond

1. Expand FSU’s high-impact programs of advising, leadership, development, community-building, and academic support
2. Deepen FSU’s tradition as an engaged campus community that makes a difference locally and abroad
3. Ensure that FSU remains a welcoming and safe campus community that develops the “whole-person” and promotes well-being for all students
4. Broaden and strengthen engagement with FSU alumni and friends worldwide

Goal 5: Preparing our Graduates for 21st Century Careers

1. Expand experiential, cross-cultural, and collaborative learning.
2. Provide students strong career advising and mentoring
3. Engage graduate students in programs and services that prepare them for employment opportunities within and outside of the academy
4. Leverage technology and relationships with employers and workforce development agencies throughout Florida for the benefit of students and alumni

Goal 6: Investing Strategically in Our Institution and Reputation
1. Build and promote a public identity for FSU that reflects our impressive academic strengths and achievements
2. Strengthen the University’s financial foundation
3. Provide an up-to-date and adaptable information infrastructure
4. Foster a culture of service, problem solving, and teamwork among all FSU employees
5. Incorporate sustainable living practices into all FSU activities