

HIGHER EXPECTATIONS

UNC SYSTEM PERFORMANCE AGREEMENT

In January 2017, the Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina unanimously approved *Higher Expectations*, a five-year Strategic Plan for the UNC System. The Plan calls on the UNC System to achieve ambitious goals in access, student success, affordability and efficiency, economic impact and community engagement, and institutional excellence and diversity.

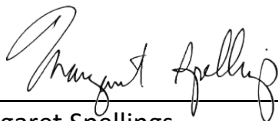
Progress on these goals and metrics will be achieved through the hard work and commitment of institutional leaders, faculty, and staff. In that spirit, President Margaret Spellings and Chancellor Randy Woodson have established this agreement to identify the contributions that North Carolina State University aspires to make to the UNC Strategic Plan over the next five years.

Recognizing that the UNC System's greatest strength lies in the distinct missions of its universities, the performance framework provides leaders with an opportunity to identify System-level commitments that align with institution-level priorities. NC State, in consultation with the UNC System office, has categorized the nine System-level metrics into three tiers:

1. The **Prioritize** category identifies the five metrics that are top priorities for NC State over the next five years; these metrics are central to institutional success and existing improvement efforts.
2. The **Improve** category contains three metrics that are secondary priorities that an institution will work to enhance.
3. The **Sustain** category contains one metric on which an institution will work to maintain its level of performance.

In addition to identifying priorities, this performance framework acknowledges cases in which institutions have taken on ambitious goals that exceed expectations. NC State's *stretch goals* are marked with an asterisk.

North Carolina State University's sizable contributions to the UNC Strategic Plan—especially its three *stretch goals*—will amplify the UNC System's role as the "mighty engine" of North Carolina, creating a better future for the state's communities, families, and economy.



Margaret Spellings
President
University of North Carolina



Randy Woodson
Chancellor
North Carolina State University



North Carolina State University:
Five-year Goals and Associated Interim Benchmarks

Prioritize

1. **Rural enrollments:** By fall 2021, NCSU will enroll 5,836 rural students, a 6.1% increase over 2016 levels (335 additional rural students over a base of 5,501).

Interim benchmarks¹:

Base (2016)	Fall 2018	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	Fall 2021
5,501	5,568	5,652	5,742	5,836

2. **Five-year graduation rates:** By 2022, NCSU will improve its five-year graduation rate from any accredited institution to 81.6%. This is an improvement over a base of 76.7% for NCSU's 2010 cohort.^{2*}

Interim Benchmarks³:

Base (2010 cohort)	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
76.7%	77.4%	78.4%	79.4%	80.5%	81.6%

3. **Undergraduate degree efficiency:** By 2021-22, NCSU will improve its undergraduate degree efficiency to 24.9 over a base of 23.9.

Interim Benchmarks:

Base (2015-16)	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
23.9	24.1	24.3	24.5	24.7	24.9

4. **Critical workforces:** By 2021-22, NCSU will produce 6,064 critical workforce credentials, an increase of 12.3% (665 additional critical workforce credentials over a base of 5,399).*

Interim Benchmarks:

Base (2015-16)	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
5,399	5,499	5,632	5,765	5,914	6,064

5. **Research productivity:** By 2021-22, NCSU will receive \$404,022,620 in research and development sponsored program awards and licensing income, an increase of 19.2% (\$65,077,469 additional over a base of \$338,945,151).*

Interim Benchmarks:

Base (FY16)	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22
\$338,945,151	\$348,706,771	\$361,722,265	\$374,737,759	\$389,380,189	\$404,022,620

¹ Interim benchmarks for rural enrollments are phased in according to the following schedule: Year 1: base + 20% of total improvement; Year 2: base + 45%; Year 3: base + 72%; Year 4: base + 100%.

² Baseline data reflect the five-year graduation rate for the 2010 cohort as of July 1, 2017.

³ Since improvement efforts may take time to produce results, interim benchmarks (except in the case of rural enrollments) are phased in according to the following schedule: Year 1: base + 15% of total improvement; Year 2: base + 35%; Year 3, base + 55%; Year 4: base + 77.5%; Year 5: base + 100%.

Improve

1. **Low-income enrollments:** By fall 2021, NCSU will enroll 4,925 low-income students, a 6.5% increase over 2015 levels (300 additional low-income students over a base of 4,625).

Interim benchmarks:

Base (2015)	Fall 2017	Fall 2018	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	Fall 2021
4,625	4,670	4,730	4,790	4,858	4,925

2. **Rural completions:** By 2021-22, NCSU will produce 1,400 rural graduates, an increase of 7.7% (100 additional rural completions over a base of 1,300).

Interim Benchmarks:

Base (2015-16)	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
1,300	1,315	1,335	1,355	1,378	1,400

3. **Achievement gaps in undergraduate degree efficiency:** By 2021-22, NCSU will reduce by 50% the achievement gap in undergraduate degree efficiency among rural students.

Interim Benchmarks:

Rural Base (2015-16)	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
21.4	21.7	22.0	22.4	22.8	23.2

Sustain

1. **Low-income completions:** By 2021-22, NCSU will produce 1,681 low-income graduates, an increase of 6.5% (102 additional low-income completions over a base of 1,579).