

University of Charleston 3-Year Student Attrition Table

	Graduated Classes		
	Class of 2023	Class of 2024	Class of 2025
Maximum entering class size (as approved by ARC-PA)	30	30	33
Entering class size	31	30	34
Graduates	29	22	29
* Attrition rate	6.45%	26.67%	14.71%
**Graduation rate	93.55%	73.33%	85.29%

*Attrition rate calculation: Number of students who attritted from cohort divided by the entering class size.

**Graduation rate: Number of cohort graduates divided by the entering class size.

Comments:

Deceleration:

Students with unexpected life experiences while in the University of Charleston PA Program are offered deceleration, as permitted by program and university policy. Students who are not successful and are not offered deceleration can re-apply and be reconsidered in another application cycle. The decelerated students are reflected in the entering class sizes. Two (2) students from the above cohorts were offered deceleration.

Attrition Rate:

The first semester in the University of Charleston PA Program covers the basic sciences; therefore, students without a strong foundation in the basic sciences (biology, anatomy, physiology, chemistry, etc.) may struggle or not be successful semester 1. There was a spike in the attrition rate for the Class of 2024. Many of the Class of 2024 students took their undergraduate science courses online during COVID (2019-2021), during a time when many professors and students were new to online instruction. Online instruction is not the best instructional modality for all students. In addition, during COVID, students may not have been held to the same standards.

To help incoming students be successful the first semester, the program worked with the anatomy instructor to build a free Anatomy Review Module (ARM) for incoming students to go through prior to starting the program. In addition, pre-exam review sessions were initiated with the anatomy instructor and upperclassmen volunteers to provide additional support for anatomy and physiology semester 1. This was implemented for the Class of 2025, resulting in nearly a 50% drop in the attrition rate.

The program has continued to evaluate how to help students be successful. As such, the University now offers peer tutoring and pre-exam student review sessions (upperclassmen volunteer to do this) through the University's Academic Success Center for semesters 1, 2, and 3 for basic sciences and clinical medicine courses, as long as there is a student volunteer for that course. The anatomy instructor continues to offer pre-exam review sessions as well.

Graduation Rate:

Only one (1) student from the above cohorts who made it past semester 1 did not graduate from the program.