

GRADUATE AREA COMPETENCE EXAMINATION

Program-specific Graduate Area Comprehensive Examinations (GACE) are administered to graduate students at Jackson State University (JSU) after the completion of the majority or all of the coursework in an academic degree program. The examinations are designed to assess the students' breadth and depth of knowledge of their graduate program of study. Success on the first administration of these examinations are a measure of student achievement at the graduate level.

For this student achievement measure, GACE percentages of pass/fail outcomes from 2014-2015 through 2019-2020 were used to determine the minimum performance level. Based on the trend data, 75% was the lowest performance level for this measure with 76% designated as the minimal level of performance. The target performance for this measure of student achievement was set at 80%. The actual performance is indicated below for students who passed the GACE for the past six years.

Minimal Performance: 76%

Target Performance: 80%

Actual Performance: (Shown in table below)

Percentage of Students Who Pass the Graduate Area Comprehensive Examination

| Year | # Fail | # Pass | % Pass |
|-----------|--------|--------|--------|
| 2014-2015 | 82 | 433 | 84.1% |
| 2015-2016 | 127 | 385 | 75.2% |
| 2016-2017 | 63 | 367 | 85.3% |
| 2017-2018 | 46 | 391 | 89.5% |
| 2018-2019 | 45 | 344 | 88.4% |
| 2019-2020 | 27 | 366 | 93.1% |

Source: Division of Graduate Studies