# **AABInternational**

LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY <sub>®</sub>	Louisiana Tech University Ruston, Louisiana
	College of Liberal Arts
	B.S. Professional Aviation
rev. November 2023	Student Achievement Data
	(As required by AABI Criterion 3.2.4)

3.2.4 Public Information. Each AABI-accredited aviation program MUST provide reliable information to the public on student success in the program, at least annually. The following Student Achievement Data MUST appear in easily accessible locations including public program websites:

- a. The Program Educational Goals of each accredited program, as publicly published, and how these Program Educational Goals are assessed by the program.
- b. Student retention and graduation rates, including the number of degrees produced each year, the percentage of students enrolled one year after starting the program, and the percentage of bachelor's students graduating within 6 years.
- *c.* The employment rate and types of employment (aviation, aviation-related or other positions) of fulltime graduates within 1 year of graduation.
- d. Other student achievement data, as determined by the program.

The report of Student Achievement Data MUST include the revision date. To ensure accuracy and accessibility, each institution with AABI accredited programs must provide an Annual Report of Compliance with AABI Criterion 3.2.4 to AABI by December 1 each year (for the preceding academic year). The report MUST include:

- 1. A URL for each accredited program's webpage and the link within that page that leads to student achievement data; and
- 2. A PDF containing student achievement data (Student Achievement Template as found on the AABI website).

# Program Educational Goals (AABI Criterion 3.2.4 (a))

PRAV 01 Ability to pursue pilot careers beginning with entry-level aviator positions in industry or government.

- PRAV 02 Ability to solve complex and/or technical problems using mathematics, science, critical thinking and emerging technologies related to aviation.
- PRAV 03 Ability to function effectively and ethically individually and in team situations.
- PRAV 04 Ability to pursue continuing education/life-long learning through graduate studies and/or advanced aviation certificates, ratings, or training in related aviation fields.
- PRAV 05 Ability to communicate effectively in written and oral form.

### Program Assessment Measures Employed (AABI Criterion 3.2.4 (a))

### Responsibility

A faculty member is appointed the Department's Accreditation and Assessment Chairperson and two additional members representing Professional Aviation and Aviation Management may serve as co-chair, as needed. These faculty members will collect data for the annual Program Assessment, prepare a briefing for the annual Program Assessment, and publish meeting minutes to document shortcomings and make changes as appropriate. In addition, these faculty members will lead the Department's effort in preparing the AABI Form 202 and 204 when necessary. They along with the Department Chair are expected to attend AABI meetings regularly and to stay abreast of the latest AABI requirements.

Every faculty member is responsible for assessing their courses to ensure that course objectives are being met and that course outcomes evaluate the stated course objectives. The entire faculty will attend the annual Program Assessment and will be involved in the assessment process. Committees have been established to address AABI items of interest such as Curriculum, Facilities, Equipment and Services, Relations with Industry, and Safety. These committee chairpersons will hold regular meetings and take minutes of these meetings to address shortcomings and ensure continuous improvement.

### Timeline

From the 2009-2010 academic school year through the 2011-2012 school year, all faculty members were required to evaluate and assess every course they taught at the completion of every quarter the course was taught. Beginning with the 2012-2013 school year, faculty members evaluate and assess courses they teach once per school year. Some of these course assessments are used as evidence to evaluate the program-level outcomes for both Professional Aviation and Aviation Management. Once a year (usually in the Fall Quarter) the entire faculty meet for the Program Assessment (both Professional Aviation and Aviation Management) of the previous academic year. The review begins with a presentation of overall statistics that are pertinent to the Department such as enrollment management, graduation rates, and flight hours. In addition to individual courses, other evidence reviewed may include alumni surveys, graduate surveys, internship surveys, Airman Knowledge Test scores, student GPAs, resume writing scores, mock interview results, FAA practical test results, team projects, class attendance, research papers, writing assignments, and oral presentation assignments. These examples, and others, are used to provide evidence of achievement of program outcomes and compliance with AABI Criterion 3.11. These items are evaluated to assess program outcomes achievement, and the results are used to improve program effectiveness. The faculty selected 80% as an overall standard of successful achievement. Both the course assessment and program-level assessment criteria are as follows:

**Standards Statement** Not Meeting Standard Meeting Standard Exceeded Standard **Level of Achievement** Greater than 5% under criteria Within 5% of criteria Greater than 5% above criteria

### **Continuous Improvement/Closing the Loop**

If an assessed area is rated "Not Meeting Standard" for either a course or a program-level assessment an "Improvement Statement" is required based on the learning outcomes assessment results to demonstrate the "Use of Results" for continuous improvement. The next time the course is taught, or a program-level review is conducted, the improvement statements are evaluated to determine results. This is our method of ensuring continuous improvement. Minutes of the annual Program Assessment are kept as a record of the proceedings.

### **Lesson Learned**

As a result of experience gained during the previous five-year assessment period and faculty deliberations during previous Self-Study Reports, we discovered that we were assessing courses with too much frequency. Therefore, we adjusted our course assessment process going forward. Beginning with the 2012-2013 school year, faculty members evaluate and assess courses they teach annually. This will allow better planning and analysis, a longer period between assessments, and a better ability to apply corrective action and monitor this action as appropriate for continuous improvement. It will also reduce the burden on the faculty and provide a more effective evaluation of courses. Course assessments are due NLT the third week of the following quarter in which the course is being evaluated.

The AABI Accreditation Criteria Manual (Form 201) was revised on July 16, 2021. The revision applied after the AABI reaffirmation of both academic programs in February 2019. Beginning in AY 2021-2022, measurable goals were incorporated into the program's comprehensive assessment plan representing specific areas of emphasis as defined by AABI Criterion 3.10. AABI confirmed with Louisiana Tech University in November 2021 that programs must include at least <u>one</u> goal for each of the eight (8) areas listed in Criterion 3.10.1 in their assessment plan, along with the information specified in 3.10.2.2, 3.10.2.3, and 3.10.2.4, to be in full compliance. With the AABI Criteria Manual revision in February 2023, AABI Criterion 3.10 was changed to AABI Criterion 3.11, and Criterion 3.10 was changed to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). The revised emphasis areas include the following:

- 1. Students
- 2. Program Mission and Educational Goals
- 3. Student Learning Outcomes
- 4. Curriculum
- 5. Faculty and Staff
- 6. Facilities, Equipment and Services
- 7. Aviation Safety Culture and Program
- 8. Relations with Industry
- 9. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (added)

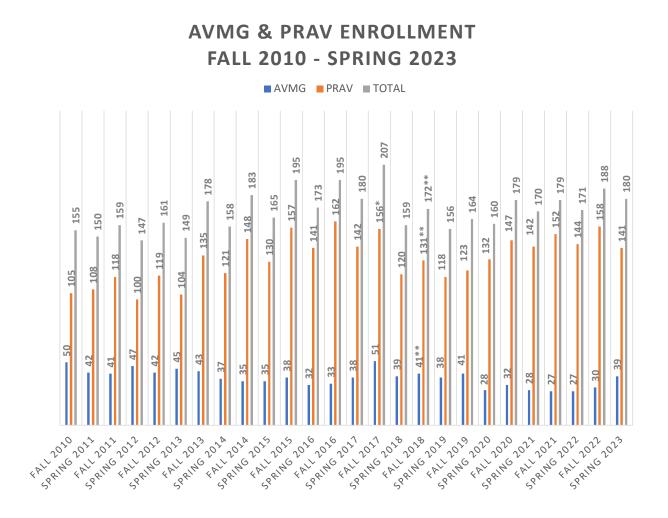
These goals and associated data are published in the annual Program Assessment presentation and

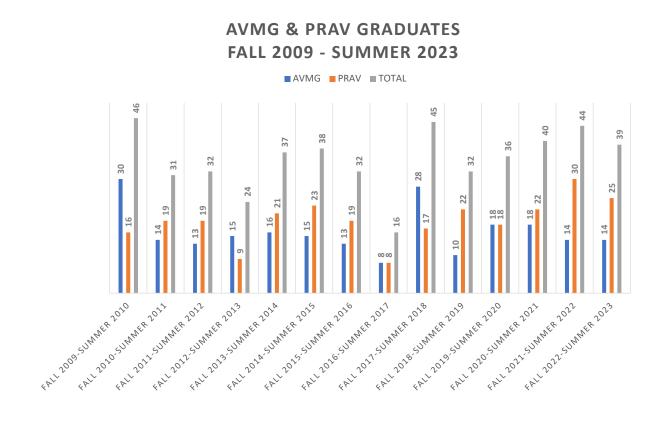
reviewed during each official Accreditation Committee meeting. AABI Criterion 3.10 was integrated into the Course/Program Assessment Timeline in November 2021 and revised in August 2023 to reflect AABI Criterion 3.11.

## Student Retention and Graduation Rates (AABI Criterion 3.2.4 (b)(d))

The Department of Professional Aviation produced 25 B.S. Professional Aviation graduates during the 2022-2023 academic year, and 91% of students admitted in the Fall Quarter 2022 cohort were enrolled one year after starting the program. Forty-eight percent (48%) of B.S. Professional Aviation first-time students graduate within 6 years (Fall 2002-Summer 2017).

Supporting enrollment and graduation data follow:





### Rate and Types of Employment of Graduates within 1 Year (AABI Criterion 3.2.4 (c))

Students graduating from the B.S. Professional Aviation degree program experienced an employment rate of 100% during the last academic year. See Table 1 for the type of employment of these alumni.

Table 1

Type of Employment

Position	Number
Aviation	25
Aviation-related	0
Other positions	0

Note: Fall Quarter 2022 through Summer Quarter 2023.