

FIRST-TIME STUDENTS HIGHLIGHTS

Fact Book, 2009

Enrollment and academic trends for first-time students show the following:

- Applications from new undergraduate students increased by 50% between fall 2005 and fall 2009. New students who were accepted to the University increased by 48% between fall 2005 and fall 2009. New students who enrolled increased by 8% between fall 2005 and fall 2009. In fall 2009, 34% of accepted applicants enrolled at Coastal Carolina University.
- Between fall 2005 and fall 2009, the average SAT score among Coastal Carolina University freshmen (1028) decreased by 18 points yet still exceeded the average scores for high school students in South Carolina (982) and the nation (1016). The average ACT composite score for Coastal Carolina University freshmen (21) was on par with that of the nation (21) and one point higher than the state-wide average (20) for the fall 2009 cohort. (*The writing test is not included in total SAT scores*)
- The average high school GPA for Coastal Carolina University freshmen increased from 3.30 for the fall 2005 cohort to 3.31 for the fall 2009 cohort. The fall 2009 freshmen cohort high school GPA is slightly lower (3.31) than the previously admitted fall 2008 freshmen cohort (3.35).
- The freshman profile for the fall 2005 through fall 2009 cohorts indicates that the number of first-time students that apply, are accepted, and enroll at Coastal Carolina University, in most cases, continued to grow. In fall 2009 there were 1,775 new freshmen which shows an increase of 7% from fall 2008.
- There were a total of 1,643 first-time full-time freshmen students enrolled at Coastal Carolina University in the fall of 2008. Of the 2008 freshmen cohort, 1,083 students chose to continue their studies the following year at Coastal Carolina University. The one year retention for the 2008 cohort is 66% which is slightly lower than the one year retention for the fall 2007 cohort (71.4%).
- In geographic origin, 505 (47%) of continuing students were native to South Carolina and 578 (53%) consisted of students from other U.S. states and international students.
- Among the academic colleges, the continuation of first-time full-time freshmen students for this period is as follows: Wall College of Business Administration (67%), Spadoni College of Education (68%), Edwards College of Humanities and Fine Arts (65%), the College of Natural and Applied Sciences (68%) and undeclared majors (57%).

Demographics - First-Time Full-Time Freshmen - Fall 2009

- The most prominent ethnic group among the fall 2009 first-time full-time freshmen was White/Non-Hispanic (77%). Black/African Americans consisted of 16% and Hispanics encompassed 3% of this group.
- Females slightly outnumbered males in the fall 2009 full-time first-time freshmen group making up 54% of the total.
- In fall 2009 first-time full-time freshmen consisted mostly of students under the age of 20 at 99%.
- Twenty percent (20%) of the in-state first-time full-time freshmen at Coastal Carolina University originated from the immediate five-county service area of Dillon, Georgetown, Horry, Marion, and Williamsburg counties. Approximately 24% originated from other South Carolina counties.
- Approximately 70% of first-time full-time freshmen during fall 2009 reported high school grade point averages (GPA) equal or exceeding 3.00. Thirty-two percent (32%) indicated a high school GPA that fell between 3.00 and 3.49, while 38% reported a GPA of 3.50 or higher.
- For the full-time first-time freshmen during fall 2009 approximately 16% had not declared a major. The most popular undergraduate majors at Coastal Carolina University among first-time freshmen included: Marine Science (11%), Biology (9%), Management (8%) and Marketing (6%).