



Mission, Vision and Goals AY 2018 – AY 2022

Vision Statement

The vision of the College of Education and Professional Studies is to prepare exemplary professionals committed to life-long learning who are leaders in contributing to the betterment of our diverse and dynamic world.

Mission Statement

The mission of the College of Education and Professional studies is to transform our community and expand our outreach through a commitment to excellence in education and human services, advancement of innovative research, and supporting the dedicated service of our faculty, staff, students, and alumni.

The University of South Alabama Strategic Plan is organized around five institutional priorities:

- **1. Student Success and Access**
- **2. Enhancement of Research and Graduate Education**
- **3. Global Engagement**
- **4. Excellence in Health Care**
- **5. University-Community Engagement**

Institutional Priority #1 - Student Success and Access: To develop, implement, and assess initiatives and practices to ensure all students are offered the resources, structure, and relationships necessary for high-quality learning, academic persistence, and degree completion.

Institutional Objectives:

- Objective 1.1: Increase the persistence, progression, and degree completion of undergraduate and graduate students.
- Objective 1.2: Ensure students are meeting learning outcomes established by the faculty.

- Objective 1.3: Ensure recruitment and admission of a high-quality, diverse student body that is well prepared for college study and representative of the racial/ethnic, gender, and social class diversity of the region.
- Objective 1.4: Increase students' access to a diverse faculty and staff among whom students may find exemplars and mentors.
- Objective 1.5: Increase faculty and student engagement through excellence in instruction, advising, and academic/professional mentorship.
- Objective 1.6: Offer student programming that increases student engagement with the University and meets co-curricular learning outcomes established by Student and Academic Affairs.
- Objective 1.7: Provide a safe and civil environment.
- Objective 1.8: Increase enrollment in a fiscally responsible manner while strengthening academic standards for admission.

College Indicators:

- Increase retention rates for first-time, full-time COE students by 4% annually.
- Increase 6-year graduation rate to 26% for first-time, full-time degree-seeking freshmen who enter the College of Education.
- 90% of students in the K-6 Teacher Education and the Secondary Education programs will pass the EdTPA on their first attempt.
- The overall student to faculty ratio should not be greater than 20:1.
- 10% of CEPS faculty will participate in ongoing Team Based Learning professional development opportunities.
- Increase the number of online courses that obtain University Level Quality Review or Official QM Certification by 5%
- The percent of instruction delivered by part-time faculty should be less than 25%.

Institutional Priority #2 - Enhancement of Research and Graduate Education: To increase USA productivity in discovery, research, scholarship, and creative activities and ensure excellence in graduate education.

Institutional Objectives:

- Objective 2.1: Increase resources and infrastructure to support faculty research and scholarly activity.
- Objective 2.2: Increase the recognition for excellence of graduate programs.
- Objective 2.3: Increase opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students to participate with faculty in research, discovery, and creative activities.
- Objective 2.4: Provide support for Health System and University partnerships in inter-disciplinary collaborative research projects, grants, contracts, and translational research projects.

- Objective 2.5: Increase the number of regional, national, and international collaborations in research, scholarly, and creative activities.
- Objective 2.6: Advance entrepreneurial activities that support the development of new technologies.
- Objective 2.7: Increase the dissemination and impact of research and scholarship produced by USA faculty and postdoctoral fellows on Mobile, nationally, and internationally.
- Objective 2.8: Increase faculty participation in making application for and securing external funding.

College Indicators:

- Increase by 5% the number of proposals that are funded by external agencies/entities.
- Increase by 5% the number of proposals that are submitted for external funding.

Institutional Priority #3 - Global Engagement: To strengthen the connections and collaborations between the University and the larger world by enhancing faculty, staff, and students' international experiences and their understanding of other societies and cultures among faculty, staff, and students.

Institutional Objectives:

- Objective 3.1: Increase the diversity of the international student body.
- Objective 3.2: Increase the incorporation of global perspectives into the educational environment.
- Objective 3.3: Increase engagement with international businesses and organizations especially those with a local presence.

College Indicators:

- A minimum of 12 CEPS students will study abroad each year.

Institutional Priority #4 - Excellence in Health Care: To actively participate in research, to educate healthcare professionals, and to be the region's leader in patients' access to care, outcomes, and satisfaction by providing health care that uses an inter-professional approach, is efficient, and is informed by research and education.

Institutional Objectives:

- Objective 4.1: Achieve exceptional patient quality and satisfaction for the USA Hospitals, Clinics and the Mitchell Cancer Institute in comparison to peer groups.
- Objective 4.2: Adapt to reimbursement changes based on patient outcomes and value to provide financial stability and a quality teaching environment.

- Objective 4.3: Ensure excellence in the educational outcomes for health professionals.

Institutional Priority #5 - University-Community Engagement: To define, support, and strategically advance the University of South Alabama's commitment to ongoing, permanent, sustainable, and mutually beneficial partnerships with the communities it serves.

Institutional Objectives:

- Objective 5.1: Increase experiential learning opportunities for USA students in the private and public sectors.
- Objective 5.2: Increase strategic engagement of faculty, staff, and students with business, government, non-profit and other organizations directly involved in regional economic, civic, and cultural development.
- Objective 5.3: Increase University outreach to encourage community participation in University-life.

College Indicators:

- Increase the number of funded scholarships for CEPS students.
- Meet Mitchell-Moulton Scholarship goal that is established for College (\$200,000).
- Increase College of Education enrollment by 1%, annually.