

Measure 4 – Ability of Completers to be Hired

Demand for teachers in South Carolina is increasing, with projected shortfalls predicted in coming years across all areas of certification. Our current data on job placement rates is a little more limited, as it relies on self-reporting of data, but an estimated 47% of students are placed within 6 months of graduation, with others choosing to go to graduate school or enter public service (Peace Corps, etc.). Reliable data is available for our graduates after they have been in the field for two years. In South Carolina, teachers undergo an induction year (their first year of full-time teaching) and are fully evaluated using the state evaluation system at the end of their second year of teaching to determine if they will receive a continuing contract. Colleges and universities are provided a list of their program completers who have been evaluated in their second year of teaching. This list allows us to see 1) if our program completers pass their evaluation and 2) how many of our program completers are still in our state and in the field after two full years. In 2023, school districts that reported Expanded ADEPT 4.0 Formal Evaluation and Student Learning Objective data for second year teachers show that 100% of program completers from USC Upstate were granted continuing contracts after this review. Further, based on the program completers evaluated, 80% of our program completers were still in the field two years after graduating, a substantial number in the field of education.