

# Factors Contributing to Timely F-1 Graduation Rates



Sean Cochran Ed.D., Eugenia Kim Ph.D., Monica Stamme, Jessica Petrovic M.S.  
Center for International Education (CIE)



- Through Beach Data we identified several factors that had varying degrees of impact on 4-year and 6-year graduation rates for first-time, first-year (FTF) international students. Notable revelations include:
- **Fall 2016 cohort** was 47 percentage points less likely to graduate in 4 years. This significant finding may be a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - **South Korean students** were 25 percentage points less likely to graduate in 4 years.
  - **STEM cohort students** or students beginning as STEM majors were 4 percentage points less likely to graduate in 4 years.
  - **Female students** were 14 percentage points more likely to graduate in 6 years.
  - **U.S. High School** or F-1 students coming from U.S. high schools were 19 percentage points more likely to graduate in 4 years.
  - **First-Year Credit** indicated that for every 3 units of freshman credit brought in at time of enrollment F-1 international students were 12% more likely to graduate in 4 or 6 years.
  - **Vietnamese students** are 22 percentage points less likely to graduate in 6 years.
  - **Chinese students** are 12 percentage points less likely to graduate in 4 years.
  - **Student Athlete** (0.6 if (4) (6) (n) 0.6 (12.3) (men) 0.6 (-3) 0.7) 0.6 (1) 0.6 (1)
- statistical analysis with larger data sets. Future analysis also needs to include cross reference with new variables, such as financial support and the impact of compulsory military service in South Korea and its impact on South Korean students' graduation rates.

Finally, numbers only provide a snapshot of the international student experience at CSU. Further analysis requires a qualitative study particularly into the student records of CSU Chinese and South Korean student populations.

