

# **AAQEP Annual Report for 2024**

Provider/Program Name:	Felician University
End Date of Current AAQEP Accreditation Term (or "n/a" if not yet accredited):	December 2029

## PART I: Publicly Available Program Performance and Candidate Achievement Data

## 1. Overview and Context

This overview describes the mission and context of the educator preparation provider and the programs included in its AAQEP review.

### **Felician University Mission**

Felician is an independent co-educational Catholic/Franciscan University founded and sponsored by the Felician Sisters to educate a diverse population of students within the framework of a liberal arts tradition. Its mission is to provide a full complement of learning experiences, reinforced with strong academic and student development programs designed to bring students to their highest potential and prepare them to meet the challenges of the new century with informed minds and understanding hearts. The enduring purpose of Felician University is to promote a love for learning, a desire for God, self-knowledge, service to others and respect for all creation. (Felician University, Fact Book, 2022, p. 4)

#### Felician University Overview of Context

One of just three institutions of higher education in the United States established by the Order of Felician Sisters, Felician University was founded by the Felician Sisters of Lodi, New Jersey, on July 5, 1923. Initially known as Immaculate Conception Normal School, with a mission of training teachers, the institution evolved into a teaching college in May 1935, approved by and affiliated with the Catholic University of America. The institution reorganized as a junior college in 1941, and on March 26, 1942, was incorporated under the laws of the State of New Jersey as Immaculate Conception Junior College. By the 1960's, the College was admitting laywomen, conferring its own associate degrees, and running a two-year Nursing program, which it had taken over from St. Mary's Hospital in Orange, New Jersey. By 1967, the College changed its name to Felician College and started offering a four-year Elementary Teacher Education program. Concurrently, a physical expansion program resulted in the library and a building containing classrooms, offices, and an auditorium. Program development progressed over the next decades, mainly in the areas of Nursing and healthcare, Business, and Education. In the 1980's, the College established a Computer Science Center and introduced programs in this field. In 1986, the College became coeducational. Programs broadened to offer Weekend Classes, off-campus sites, and partnerships with other institutions, as well as degrees in fields including the Natural Sciences and Humanities. Recognizing the need for student support services, Felician opened a Childcare Center, a Center for Learning, and a Nursing Resource Center. The 1990's witnessed further growth. The College developed its virtual presence starting in 1996, with a website, Internet and email for students and faculty, and Distance Learning courses. The Athletics program began, with basketball for both male and female students, a men's soccer team, and a women's softball team. In 1995, Felician College received permission from the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education to offer graduate programs, starting with the MSN in Nursing. Facility development continued, with the completion of Kirby Hall and the purchase of the Rutherford campus from Fairleigh Dickinson University. Support services also increased, one instance of which was the JumpStart program offered by the Center for Academic Support Services Physical, educational, and extracurricular expansion advanced. Iviswold Castle opened in Spring 2013 after a 14-year renovation. The College updated the Little Theater on the Rutherford Campus. More academic programs emerged, at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, including Communications, Criminal Justice, additional options in Teacher Education, and Fasttrack Nursing. The College entered into articulation agreements with multiple community colleges for transfer students and with universities for joint programs. Webcasting from the student-run radio station, WRFC, started in 2006. Veterans found enhanced benefits through the College's status as a recognized Yellow Ribbon, Purple Heart, and Military Friendly University. The Felician College Athletic Program gained full membership in the National Collegiate Athletic Felician University Factbook 2022 Association Division II in Fall 2002. In 2004, the Office for Mission Integration was established to promote the continuance of the Felician Franciscan identity and heritage of the College in all aspects of the collegiate experience. On September 24, 2015, Felician College received approval from the New Jersey Secretary of Higher Education to change its name to Felician University. At this point, the institution had transformed from a junior college in 1941 to offer 16 masters, 4 post-bachelors or post-master's certificates, and 2 doctoral degree

programs. Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, Felician University perseveres in meeting the needs of its community through relevant programs while maintaining the values of upholding the dignity of the individual consistent with a Catholic Franciscan perspective. (Felician University, Fact Book, 2022, p. 5)

Programs

Degree or Certificate Granted by the Institution	State Certification, License, or Endorsement, or Other
1. Early Childhood Education (P- 3)	Early Childhood (P-3) Certification
and Teacher of Students with Disabilities (TOSD), BA	TOSD Certification
2. Elementary Education (K-6)	Elementary (K-6) Certification
and Teacher of Students with Disabilities (TOSD), BA	TOSD Certification
3. Elementary Education (K-6) with <b>Mathematics</b> Specialization (5-8) and	Elementary Certification (K-6)
Teacher of Students with Disabilities (TOSD), BA	Grades 5-8, <b>Mathematics</b> Certification
	TOSD Certification
4. Elementary Education (K-6) with <b>Science</b> Specialization (5-8) and	Elementary Certification (K-6)
Teacher of Students with Disabilities (TOSD), BA	Grades 5-8, <b>Science</b> Certification
	TOSD Certification
5. Secondary Education <b>Mathematics</b> (K-12) and Teacher of Students with Disabilities (TOSD) BA	Secondary <b>Mathematics</b> Certification (K- 12) TOSD Certification
6. Secondary Education Art (K-	Secondary Art Certification (K-12)
12) and Teacher of Students with Disabilities (TOSD) BA	TOSD Certification
7. Secondary Education <b>Biology</b> (K-12) and Teacher of Students with	Secondary <b>Biology</b> Certification (K- 12) TOSD Certification
Disabilities (TOSD) BA	
8. Early Childhood Education (P- 3) and Teacher of Students with	Early Childhood (P-3) Certification
Disabilities (TOSD) MA	TOSD Certification
9. Early Childhood Education (P- 3) and Teacher of Students with Disabilities	Early Childhood (P-3) Certification
(TOSD) MA ALTERNATE ROUTE	TOSD Certification
10. <b>Elementary Education</b> (K-6) and Teacher of Students with Disabilities (TOSD) MA	Elementary (K-6) Certification TOSD Certification
11. Elementary Education (K-6) with <b>Mathematics</b>	Elementary Certification (K-6)
Specialization (5-8) and Teacher of Students with	Grades 5-8, Mathematics Certification TOSD Certification
Disabilities (TOSD) Certification only	
12. Special Education, MA	Teacher of Students with Disabilities (TOSD)
13. Special Education, Certification only	Teacher of Students with Disabilities (TOSD)
14. Teacher of English as a Second Language, (ESL) MA	Teacher of English as a Second Language (ESL)
15. Teacher of English as a Second Language, (ESL) Certification only	Teacher of English as a Second Language (ESL)
16. Principal/Supervision Dual Certification, MA	Principal and Supervision
17. Educational Supervision, MA	Supervision
18. Educational Supervision, Post- Master's Certification Only	Supervision
19. Principal Post Masters Certification Only	Principal

## **Public Posting URL**

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Accreditation and Annual Reports - Felician University of New Jersey

https://felician.edu/academics/school-of-education/accreditation-and-annual-reports/

## 2. Enrollment and Completion Data

Table 1 shows current enrollment and recent completion data for each program included in the AAQEP review.

Table 1. Program Specification: Enrollment and Completers for Academic Year 2023-2024

Degree or Certificate granted by the institution or organization	State Certificate, License, Endorsement, or Other Credential	Number of Candidates enrolled in most recently completed academic year (12 months ending 08/24)	Number of Completers in most recently completed academic year (12 months ending 08/24)
Pı	rograms that lead to initial teaching credent	ials	
Early Childhood (P-3) Certification	Early Childhood (P-3) Certification	22 (UG)	1 (UG)
TOSD Certification	TOSD Certification	10 (GR)	1 (GR)
Early Childhood (P-3) Certification (Alt Route) TOSD Certification	Early Childhood (P-3) Certification TOSD Certification	18	2
Elementary (K-6) Certification	Elementary (K-6) Certification	33 (UDG)	2 (UDG)
TOSD Certification	TOSD Certification	3 (GR)	0 (GR)
Elementary Certification (K-6) Grades 5-8	Elementary Certification (K-6) Grades 5-8	0 (UDG)	0 (UDG)
TOSD Certification	TOSD Certification	2 (GR)	1 (GR)
Secondary Certification (K- 12)	Secondary Certification (K- 12)	32 (UDG)	3 (UDG)
TOSD Certification	TOSD Certification	0 (GR)	0 (GR)

Total for programs that lead to initial credentials 120 10				
Programs that lead to	additional or advanced credentials for alrea	ady-licensed educators		
Special Education, MA	Teacher of Students with Disabilities (TOSD)	5	0	
Special Education, Certification only	Teacher of Students with Disabilities (TOSD)	18	2	
Teacher of English as a Second Language, (ESL) MA	Teacher of English as a Second Language (ESL)	3	3	
Teacher of English as a Second Language, (ESL) Certification only	Teacher of English as a Second Language (ESL)	0	0	
Principal/Supervision Dual Certification, MA	Principal and Supervision	33	25	
Principal/Supervision Dual Certification (no MA)	Principal and Supervision	0	0	
Educational Supervision, Post Masters Certificate	Supervision	53	42	
Principal, Post Masters Certificate	Principal	48	7	
Learning Disabled Teacher Consultant (LDTC)	Learning Disabled Teacher Consultant (LDTC)	71	10	
Total for programs that lead to additional/advanced credentials		223	89	
Programs that lead to cr	r to no specific creden	tial		
Total for additional programs		0	0	
TOTAL enrollment and productivity for all programs		0	0	
Unduplicated total of all program candidates and completers		0	0	

## Added or Discontinued Programs

Any programs within the AAQEP review that have been added or discontinued within the past year are listed below. (This list is required only from providers with accredited programs.)

During the 2023-2024 academic year, the following programs were discontinued due to the university closing the majors of history and English.

Degree or Certificate Granted by the Institution	State Certification, License, or Endorsement, or Other
Elementary Education (K-6) with <b>English</b> Specialization (5-8) and Teacher of	Elementary Certification (K-6)
Students with Disabilities (TOSD), BA	Grades 5-8 English Certification
Elementary Education (K-6) with <b>Social Studies</b> Specialization (5-8) and	TOSD Certification  Elementary Certification (K-6)
Teacher of Students with Disabilities (TOSD), BA	Grades 5-8, <b>Social Studies</b> Certification
(**************************************	TOSD Certification
Secondary Education <b>Social Studies</b> (K-12) and Teacher of Students with	Secondary Social Studies Certification (K- 12) TOSD Certification
Disabilities (TOSD) BA	
Secondary Education <b>English</b>	Secondary English Certification (K- 12 TOSD Certification
(K-12) and Teacher of Students with Disabilities (TOSD), BA	
Secondary Social Studies Education (K-12) and Teacher of Students with	Secondary Social Studies
Disabilities (TOSD) MA	Certification (K-12) TOSD Certification

## 3. Program Performance Indicators

The program performance information in Table 2 applies to the academic year indicated in Table 1.

## **Table 2. Program Performance Indicators**

A. **Total enrollment** in the educator preparation programs shown in Table 1. This figure is an unduplicated count, i.e., individuals earning more than one credential may be counted in more than one line above but only once here.

253

B. **Total number of unique completers** (across all programs) included in Table 1. This figure is an unduplicated count, i.e., individuals who earned more than one credential may be counted in more than one line above but only once here.

35

C. Number of recommendations for certificate, license, or endorsement included in Table 1.

128

D. **Cohort completion rates** for candidates who completed the various programs within their respective program's expected timeframe **and** in 1.5 times the expected timeframe.

Fall 2023 Initial Cert Program Completers			
Program	Initial Cohort	100% (4 years)	150% (6 years)
P-3/ TOSD	1 Grad	1	
K-6/ TOSD			
K-6; 5-8/ TOSD			
K-12/ TOSD			
Total	1 student	100% completion rate	
	Spring 2024 Init	tial Cert Program Completers	
Program	Initial Cohort	100% (4 years)	150% (6 years)
P-3/ TOSD	1 UDG	1	
K-6/ TOSD	2 UDG	2	
K-6; 5-8/ TOSD	1 Grad	1	
K-12/ TOSD	3 UDG	3	
Total	7 students	100% completion rate	

## **Advanced Programs**

Felician does not have a timeframe for completion of advanced programs. We do not have a scheduled time-frame in an effort to accommodate students' schedules and offer flexibility. Some students will take every course that is offered in each early spring/late spring, summer I and summer II, and early fall/late fall sessions/semesters and others will take one course a semester, not always in the summer sessions.

E. **Summary of state license examination results**, including teacher performance assessments, and specification of any examinations on which the pass rate (cumulative at time of reporting) was below 80%.

### **Praxis CORE:**

88% pass rate on Core: Math (8 enrolled in Grad and UDG; 7 passed on the first attempt)

88% pass rate on Core: Reading (8 enrolled in Grad and UDG; 7 passed on the first attempt)

63% pass rate on Core: Writing (8 enrolled in Grad and UDG; 5 passed on the first attempt)

- Percentages are based on the initial test score of our initial cert graduates. Our students have been offered study guides and free tutoring sessions through the Center for Academic Success & Experiential Learning (CASEL) in

reading, writing, and math. We also held a 6- week math tutoring session taught by a Felician University math professor with no charge to students. In addition, we offer a Praxis Core Math Prep (MATH-120) and a Praxis Core Review (ENG- 121) prep course both fall and spring semesters housed in the School of Arts and Sciences and taught by university professors.

## **Praxis II Early Childhood Education:**

100% pass rate on 5025 Early Childhood Education (1 enrolled in Grad and 1 enrolled in UDG; 2 passed)

## Praxis II K-6 (by content area):

100% pass rate on 5002 Elementary Education Reading and Language Arts (1 enrolled in Grad and 2 enrolled in UDG; 3 passed)

100% pass rate on 5003 Elementary Education Math (1 enrolled in Grad and 2 enrolled in UDG; 3 passed)

100% pass rate on 5004 Elementary Education Social Studies (1 enrolled in Grad and 2 enrolled in UDG; 3 passed)

100% pass rate on 5005 Elementary Education Science (1 enrolled in Grad and 2 enrolled in UDG; 3 passed)

#### Praxis II K-12:

100% pass rate on 5038 English Language Arts: Content Knowledge (1 enrolled in UDG; 1 passed)

----% pass rate on 5165 Mathematics: Content Knowledge (None enrolled)

50% pass rate on 5081 Social Studies: Content Knowledge (2 enrolled in UDG; 1 passed)

- Per NJDOE regulations, the state will allow candidates to apply Praxis Flexibility. " New Jersey requires that candidates for certification achieve a cumulative GPA of at least 3.00 when a GPA of 4.00 equals an A grade for students graduating on or after September 1, 2016."
- The Flex rule was applied to candidate, in which the candidate had a GPA of 3.50 or higher, and the passing score is no less than the permitted score.

### **Praxis II School Leaders Licensure Assessment**

100% pass rate on School Leaders Licensure Assessment (17 candidates)

F. Narrative explanation of evidence available from program completers, with a characterization of findings.

As of Nov 1, 2024 we received 7 completer surveys from recent initial cert program graduates. We focused on 4 questions that we feel address being prepared to step into a classroom:

Q19.10- My teacher preparation program coursework and field experiences increased my confidence in my ability to demonstrate effective classroom instruction that makes subject matter meaningful to all students.

Response: 4 Strongly Agree, 2 Agree, 1 Neither agree nor disagree

Q31.1- My teacher preparation program coursework and field experiences increased my confidence in my ability to align assessments with relevant standards.

Response: 5 Strongly Agree, 2 Agree

Q39.3- My teacher preparation program coursework and field experiences increased my confidence in my ability to integrate technology to improve the overall classroom experience.

Response: 4 Strongly Agree, 3 Agree

Q42.6- The information I learned in my teacher preparation program coursework and field experiences was applicable to my future career.

Response: 6 Strongly A,1 Agree

G. Narrative explanation of evidence available from employers of program completers, with a characterization of findings.

88% of our spring 2024 graduates are gainfully employed as teachers. We sent out employer surveys twice with none being returned. We are exploring the idea of pushing back our employer survey from the fall to the spring to allow employers time with their new employee.

In the past we have focused on 4 questions that we feel addressed the following:

Learning Differences, Assessment, Teaching Standards (knowledge of theories and strategies), and Students with Disabilities and Second Language Learners. These areas are a focus to ensure our learners have a clear understanding of the teaching standards, and theory and practice for the dual certification which includes the TOSD.

- Q5- Recent Felician University School of Education graduates have demonstrated the ability to create learning experiences that are accessible and meaningful for all students.
- Q9- Recent Felician University School of Education graduates have demonstrated the ability to assess student learning and use assessments to inform practice and improve student learning.

- Q13- Recent Felician University School of Education graduates have demonstrated knowledge of a variety of teaching strategies to develop students' critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
- Q14- Recent Felician University School of Education graduates have demonstrated knowledge and skills to engage in culturally responsive educational practices with diverse learners, including students with disabilities and students who are learning English as a new language.
- H. Narrative explanation of how the program investigates **employment rates for program completers**, with a characterization of findings. This section may also indicate rates of completers' ongoing education, e.g., graduate study.

In the School of Education, the Director of Internship and Assessment identifies which completers are gainfully employed through emails, surveys, and social media accounts. For this reporting period, 88% of our spring 2024 graduates are gainfully employed as teachers. The Office of External Relations does not track alumni employment and tracks alumni for specific purposes by using social media and professional data services.

## 4. Candidate Academic Performance Indicators

Tables 3 and 4 report on select measures of candidate/completer performance related to AAQEP Standards 1 and 2, including the program's expectations for successful performance and indicators of the degree to which those expectations are met.

 Table 3. Expectations and Performance on Standard 1: Candidate and Completer Performance

Provider-Selected Measures	Explanation of Performance Expectation	Level or Extent of Success in Meeting the Expectation
Praxis Scores	Completers of the Felician University Teacher Ed programs are successful on the Praxis content exams at a 100% expected pass rate. However, the NJDOE flexibility allowance for students who have a passing score -5%, applicable for students with a GPA of 3.5 or higher, in cases where the passing content area exam score is no less than the score designated by the NJDOE, then the requirement for certification is considered met.	Praxis II Early Childhood Education: 100% pass rate on 5025 Early Childhood Education (1 enrolled in Grad and 1 enrolled in UDG; 2 passed)  Praxis II K-6 (by content area): 100% pass rate on 5002 Elementary Education Reading and Language Arts (1 enrolled in Grad and 2 enrolled in UDG; 3 passed) 100% pass rate on 5003 Elementary Education Math (1 enrolled in Grad and 2 enrolled in UDG; 3 passed) 100% pass rate on 5004 Elementary Education Social Studies (1 enrolled in Grad and 2 enrolled in UDG; 3 passed) 100% pass rate on 5005 Elementary Education Science (1 enrolled in Grad and 2 enrolled in UDG; 3 passed)  Praxis II K-12: 100% pass rate on 5038 English Language Arts: Content Knowledge (1 enrolled in UDG; 1 passed)% pass rate on 5165 Mathematics: Content Knowledge (None enrolled) 50% pass rate on 5081 Social Studies: Content Knowledge (2 enrolled in UDG; 1 passed)

		<ul> <li>Per NJDOE regulations, the state will allow candidates to apply Praxis Flexibility. "New Jersey requires that candidates for certification achieve a cumulative GPA of at least 3.00 when a GPA of 4.00 equals an A grade for students graduating on or after September 1, 2016."</li> <li>The Flex rule was applied to candidate, in which the candidate had a GPA of 3.50 or higher, and the passing score is no less than the permitted score.</li> <li>Praxis II School Leaders Licensure Assessment 100% pass rate on School Leaders Licensure Assessment (17 candidates)</li> </ul>
Observation and Conference Report (OCR)	With proficient scores on this assessment, we can confirm that most of our candidates met expectations which aligns well to standard 1A.  Competency #11 Learning Differences  1 - Emergent: Teacher candidate prepares and delivers instruction oriented toward the whole class.  2 - Novice: Teacher candidate develops and delivers instruction to address the needs of learners on an inconsistent basis.	During the 2023-2024 period, students scored on the OCR for the competency area of learning differences with a mean of 3.46 (SD = 0.74) placing them between the ranges of "proficient" and "advanced proficient" in their performance.

- 3 Proficient: Teacher candidate designs and delivers instruction based on the needs of each student. Modifications to lessons are made for students with special needs, learning styles, and English language learners.
- 4 Advanced Proficient: Teacher candidate applies and adapts instruction that engages learners in ways that complement their learning styles. Teacher candidate modifies instruction to reflect the diverse cultures and communities of learners.

NO - Not Observed

Clinical Competency Inventory (CCI)

Clinical interns first engage in a Clinical Practice I semester teaching on site in a Felician partnership school for two full days per week, and then progress to five full days of student teaching in Clinical Practice II. The Clinical Competency Inventory (CCI) is used during the final semesters as an observational instrument designed to provide feedback on progress. This performance-based assessment instrument measures key competencies aligned to the 2011 InTASC standards and the edTPA rubrics that are required of all teaching candidates prior to being recommended for certification. This standards-based observational instrument specifies the defining set of competencies that pre-service teachers should demonstrate before being recommended for certification in the State of New Jersey and these specific competencies will be referenced throughout this QAR. The following rating scale is used to score each teacher candidate 1: Pre-Emergent (Exhibits Difficulty) 2: Novice (Limited Competence) 3: Proficient (Basic Competence) 4: Advanced Proficient (Exemplary Practice) Not Observed - if a specific indicator in the classroom is not observed. It is expected that all

For the 2023-2024 period, students 41% of students received overall scores within the "proficient" range and 54% scored within the "advanced proficient" range.

candidates will receive a score of Proficient (3).	

Table 4. Expectations and Performance on Standard 2: Completer Professional Competence and Growth

Provider-Selected Measures	Explanation of Performance Expectation	Level or Extent of Success in Meeting the Expectation
Professional Dispositions Evaluation (PDE)	Our expectation is that the average score is at least a 3 on each item:  1= EMERGENT—The teacher candidate exhibits difficulty in this indicator  2= NOVICE—The teacher candidate continues to need assistance with this indicator  3= PROFICIENT—The teacher candidate shows basic competence and integration with this indicator  4=ADVANCED PROFICIENT—The teacher candidate shows exemplary practice and integration with this indicator NOT OBSERVED	During the 2023-2024 period, 31% of students were scored as "proficient" and 57.8% were scored as "advanced proficient" in the area of being a willing learner.
	Q20- Please rate the degree to which the candidate was a willing learner. Indicators: The candidate:  • exhibited self-awareness of areas for professional improvement.  • actively participated in learning opportunities.	

	<ul> <li>posed and listened to constructive suggestions to enhance the teaching and learning process</li> <li>provided evidence of reflection on improvement of professional practice in content area(s) and pedagogy</li> </ul>	
Clinical Competency Inventory (CCI)	AAQEP standard 2B: Engage in culturally responsive educational practices with diverse learners and do so in diverse cultural and socioeconomic community context.  Standard #2 (InTASC): Learning Differences The teacher uses understanding of individual differences and diverse cultures and communities to ensure inclusive learning environments that enable each learner to meet high standards.  Our expectation is that the average score is at least a 3 on each item:  Competency 3; Standard #2 (Learning Differences): Please rate the degree to which the clinical intern designs and implements instruction that creates an inclusive learning environment where individual needs and differences are respected and met.  1 - Emergent: The clinical intern's lessons provide the same strategies for	During the 2023-2024 period, the mean score was 3.46 (SD = 0.62) on the Competency 3, Standard #2 of learning differences on the CCI, indicating that their performance was between the "proficient" and "advanced proficient" ranges.

	all students and do not take into account learning differences.  2 - Novice: The clinical intern's lessons try to support a learning environment that allows all students to succeed, but need to include more individualized accommodations for learners.  3 - Proficient: The clinical intern's lessons include many activities that differentiate the delivery of instruction based on the needs of learners. Lessons contain strategies that support a learning environment that allows all students to succeed. Lessons include assessments that accommodate the needs of all learners.  4 - Advanced Proficient: The clinical intern's lessons include developmentally appropriate activities that accommodate individual differences of learners and allows them to succeed. Lessons contain strategies to differentiate the delivery of instruction based on prior knowledge and experience of all learners. Lessons include assessments that are differentiated to allow each learner to demonstrate their understanding of content.  NO - Not Observed	
Global Awareness	To Address AAQEP Standards 2, the SoE implemented a pilot project for the	During the 2023-2024 period, a 100% of students scored 18.25 or higher on the

written paper and 20 or higher on the spring 2023 academic session titled poster presentation. Global Awareness. The pilot consisted of a written paper and a poster presentation. This is implemented in three courses with an outreach to all students, in all programs, both UDG and GR. The courses were EDU506, EDU506 was chosen because all students in advanced endorsements take this course. EDU400/668, Clinical Practice Seminar. All students in the SoE are required to take this course at both the undergraduate and graduate level. EDU720 was chosen because all students in the masters of ed leadership are required to take this course. The expectation is that students will achieve a score of 18.25 or higher (proficient) on the written paper and a score of 20 or higher on the poster presentation.

## 5. Notes on Progress, Accomplishment, and Innovation

This section describes program accomplishments, efforts, and innovations (strengths and outcomes) to address challenges and priorities over the past year.

## **Efforts**

During the 2023-2024 academic year, in an effort to address the teacher shortage in New Jersey, the School of Education launched its partnership with K-12 Teacher's Alliance (KTA) to work on recruitment of students into the various graduate programs in teacher preparation, LDTC, as well as supervisor and principal programs. As can be seen from the enrollment data provided above, there was a significant increase in student enrollment in these programs, which in turn has produced and will continue to produce more high-quality professionals entering into New Jersey schools.

### **Accomplishments**

- The New Jersey Department of Education sought recommendations for the 2024 New Jersey Distinguished Clinical Intern Award (DCIA). This annual award is a collaborative effort between the New Jersey Association of Colleges for Teacher Education and the New Jersey Department of Education, to publicly recognize the top graduates of New Jersey educator preparation programs. Felician was invited to nominate three outstanding education students for this award who, through their academic work and clinical performance, have distinguished themselves as being among the very finest teacher candidates. All three submitted a dossier and all three were awarded a New Jersey Distinguished Clinical Intern Award.
- Amongst our December 2023 and May 2024 graduates, 7 graduates are gainfully employed in NJ schools as certified teachers.

## <u>Challenges</u>

One of the challenges that we are faced with due to enrollment growth is the need for additional faculty to support the increase in student enrollment. Therefore, we had made two new hires for educational leadership going into the 2024-2025 school year; however, there will need to be more full-time faculty hires to support continued enrollment growth across all undergraduate and graduate programs in future semesters/academic years. The challenge is always the recruitment and retention of high-quality and diverse faculty in the ever-changing landscape of higher education and teacher preparation.