
PENNWEST EXCEEDS ENROLLMENT TARGETS, DUAL ENROLLMENT SURGES



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PennWest University surpassed its spring enrollment projections, with total headcount reaching 10,121 students — 2.43% above the institutional target of 9,881.

University officials noted that outperforming expectations in a challenging demographic environment reinforces the university’s strong enrollment position and signals continued positive momentum.

Undergraduate enrollment finished 2.83% above goal at 6,907 students, or 190 more than anticipated. New transfer enrollment increased 24.12%, reflecting the appeal of PennWest pathways and credit mobility.

PennWest’s fall-to-spring retention rate climbed to 88.57%, an important measure of student persistence and academic progress. Online enrollment jumped 10.14%, demonstrating growing demand for flexible, career-focused programs.

The university is also seeing strong growth in its pipeline. Dual enrollment rose from 171 high school students last spring to 392 this term.

“We set ambitious but achievable goals, and our teams pushed past them,” said Darren Wagner, vice president for Strategic Enrollment Management. “The measurable gains in retention and dual enrollment are clear evidence that students see real value in PennWest and are choosing us for their college journey.”

PennWest draws students from all 67 Pennsylvania counties, 50 states, and 62 countries. The largest number of in-state students come from Allegheny, Erie and Washington counties.

Access remains central to PennWest’s mission. Nearly 90% of students receive financial aid, and more than 38% are the first in their families to attend college.

“These outcomes reflect students recognizing the value of a PennWest education,” said President Jon Anderson. “Our focus remains on access, affordability and helping students reach their goals.”

The spring figures reinforce PennWest’s commitment to expanding opportunity for students across western Pennsylvania and beyond.