61 percent of 2017 New Freshmen Exhibit Mission Characteristics

In fall 2017, 61 percent of new freshmen identified with at least one mission-student characteristic, compared with 57 percent in 2016.

There are four traits that are used to identify DePaul’s mission student characteristics:

- **Low Income**: Eligible for the Federal Pell Grant.
- **First generation**: Neither parent has a college degree (bachelor’s or higher).
- **Underrepresented students of color**: Race/ethnicity is African-American, Hispanic/Latino, or American Indian.
- **Chicago resident**: Lives within the Chicago city limits (does not include Chicago suburbs).

Six percent of freshmen meet all four characteristics (compared with 4 percent in 2016). Over the past five years, over half of all freshmen have consistently met at least one mission characteristic. In that same time, the proportion of the freshmen class that fits each mission characteristic has ranged from 20-35 percent.

Compared with 2016, the proportion of freshmen this fall in each mission student category has risen. The percentage of low-income freshmen increased 5 percentage points, first-generation students increased 1 percentage point, underrepresented students of color increased 3 percentage points, and Chicago students increased 4 percentage points.

Source: IRMA Enrollment Files
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Additional research related to new students can be found on the Student Market Matrix here: https://irma.depaul.edu/Research/studentmatrix2.asp?cell=13.