

# In The Fast Lane: Preparation Changes That Improved Our NAPLEX Ranking From #101 To #8

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## Introduction

- Over the past several years the University of Findlay College of Pharmacy has taken intentional steps to further enhance our NAPLEX passage rates<sup>1</sup>
- Additionally, a focus of the University has been increasing retention among students, especially early in the curriculum
- Several of the initiatives are described in the remainder of the poster as we highlight several changes that have received positive results

## Lane 1 – RxPrep Quizzes

During the last year of schooling during APPE rotations, students have required review assignments and assessments. This reinforces longitudinal review and improvement on long-time test-taking skills.

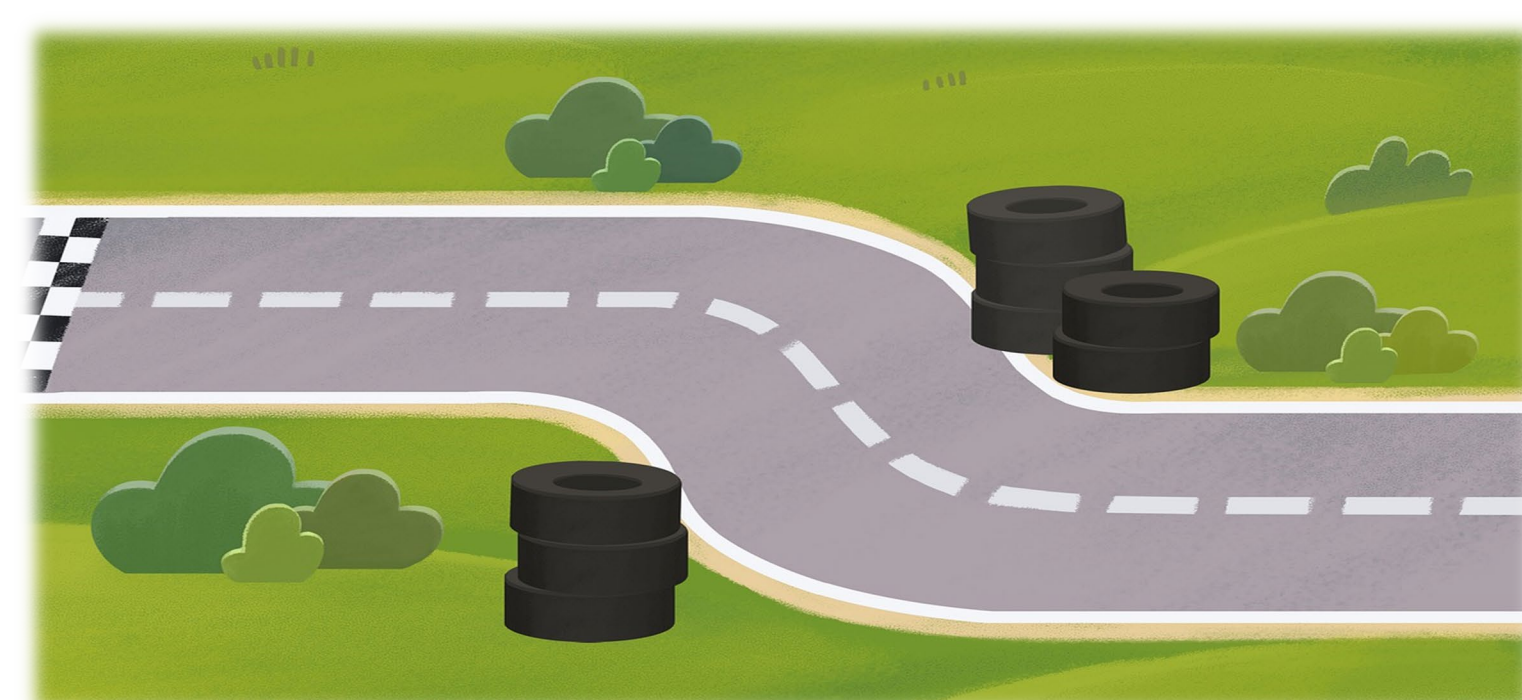
**Topic Review:** Each month for 9 months, students review 3 topic areas/Chapters in RxPrep

**Chapter Quizzes:** Students must pass the chapter quiz with 80% or better

**Low Stake Assessments:** A comprehensive quiz consists of 60 questions given 4 times throughout the academic year.

**Pre-NAPLEX:** Students take the Pre-NAPLEX in September and write a study plan

**High Stakes Assessment:** Students take a 325-question (6 hours) assessment on campus with the goal to earn 75% or better. This is given in December, March, and May.

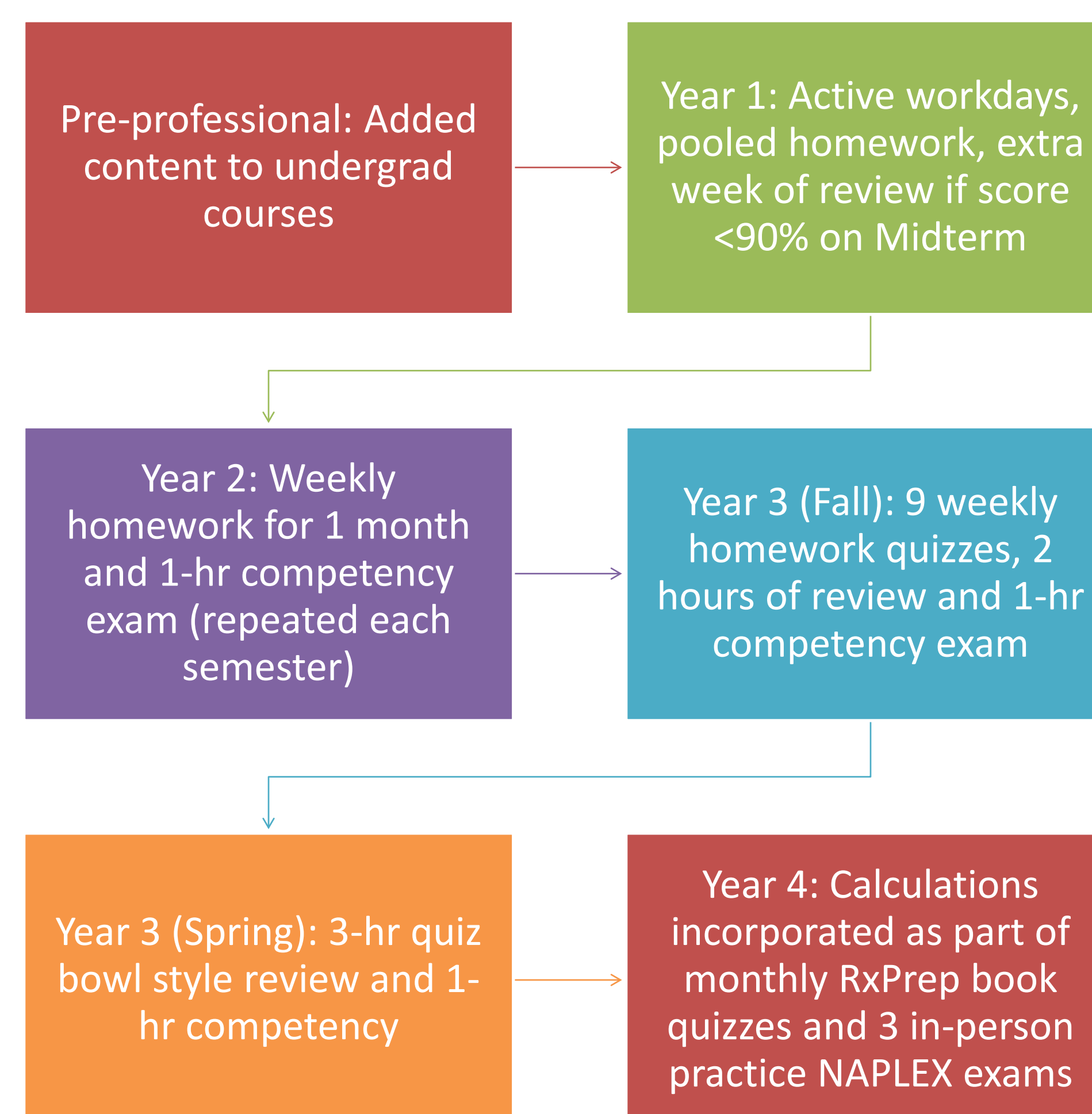


## Lane 2 - Retention

- A Director of Pharmacy Student Success was hired in 2021
  - One of the responsibilities of this role is to meet 1:1 with struggling students to provide enhanced advising
  - The Director has spent an estimated 352 hours advising and meeting with students
  - This enhanced advising helps students stay on track and accountable for schoolwork
- The College of Pharmacy partnered with the College of Sciences to conduct an event called Prime the Pump
  - This is offered as a review of major science topics students will need to know in their 1st year on campus

## Lane 3 - Calculations

Changes to calculations content include:



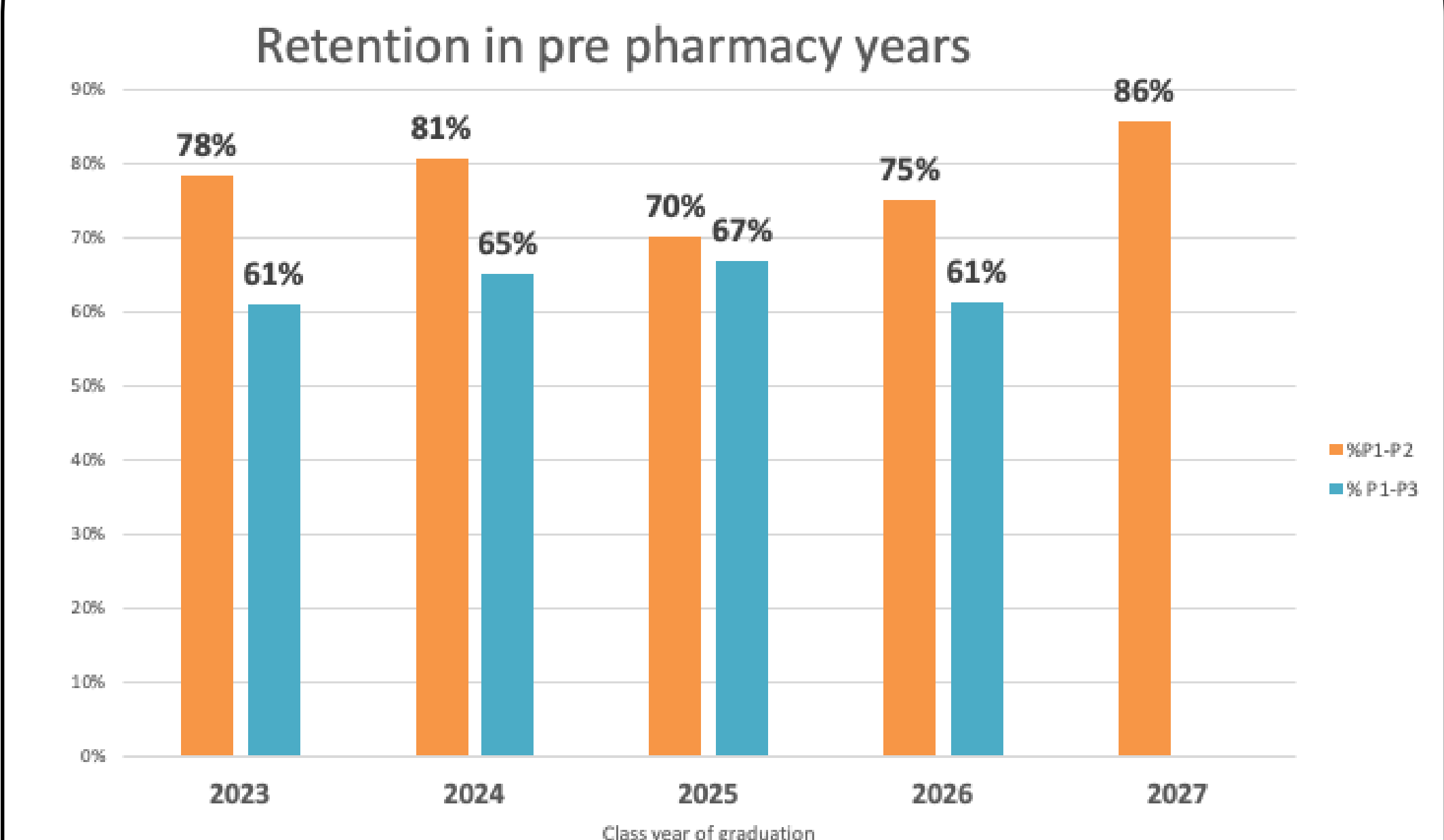
See separate poster for more details: 'Improving Pharmacy Calculations NAPLEX Performance Through Structured Training and Curricular Repetition'

## Lane 4 – Competency Quizzes

- Drug competency exams were incorporated in the second semester of the 3rd professional year (i.e. Capstone course) starting in 2020.
- In 2022, the drug competency was revised to include 3-phases (low, moderate, high stakes) geared to help students achieve mastery.
  - 9 low stakes quizzes, 3 moderate stakes formative assessments, 1 practice and 1 final comprehensive summative assessment were administered.
- 461 top drugs were tested: Brand/generic, therapeutic class, side effects, and warnings/contraindications
- Questions were multiple choice, including some case-based questions
- See separate poster for more details: 'Do Drug Competency Assessments Work?'

## Results

- The University of Findlay's NAPLEX passage ranking improved from 101st in 2017 to 8th in 2022.<sup>1</sup>
- Students scored higher on the calculations section of the NAPLEX (Domain 4)
  - 0% of students were at level 1 (below minimum performance)
  - 62% of students were at level 4 (exceeds minimum performance)
- Retention rates have improved from 78% to 86% in the P1-P2 year



## Discussion/Conclusions

- Changes to curricula and overall structure of the College of Pharmacy has led to enhanced retention and improved performance on the NAPLEX exam
- The College of Pharmacy will look to further optimize these initiatives going forward to maximize their impact
- Other initiatives will also need to be started to continue to improve student education and adapt to changes in Pharmacy Practice



## References

1. North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination® Passing Rates for 2020-2022 Graduates. Mount Prospect (IL): NABP; 2023 [cited 2023 June 23]. Available from: <https://nabp.pharmacy/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/NAPLEX-Pass-Rates-2022.pdf>