

Commencement Participation

Policy Number: 3685

Date Created/Revised: DRAFT

Executive Responsibility: VP-Curriculum & Instruction, Faculty Senate

Functional Responsibility: Registrar

3685.1 Policy

Commencement ceremonies constitute public celebrations marking the completion of education requirements. Students are eligible and encouraged to participate in the first commencement ceremony following the term in which they complete a program of study. Students completing program-of-study coursework in the Summer or Fall term are eligible to participate in the Fall commencement ceremony. Students completing program-of-study coursework in the Spring term are eligible to participate in the Spring commencement ceremony.

Students indicate their intention to attend commencement when they apply to graduate.

Commencement ceremonies are held before final course grades are reported. In some instances, students may participate in a commencement ceremony but find that they have not successfully completed coursework required in their program of study. Such students should participate in only one commencement ceremony per degree and thus are not eligible to participate in a second ceremony for the same degree.

3685.2 Exceptions to the Policy

Students who are unable to attend due to military obligation or documented emergency are eligible to attend the first commencement ceremony following the end of the obligation or emergency. Such students must appropriately inform the Registrar's office of their intent to participate, including documentation showing cause for the exception, before the normal deadline for application for graduation/commencement participation.

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All exceptions to this policy must be approved by

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Deleted: appropriate college or school, who will forward approved requests to the Office of the Registrar so that students may be included in

Deleted: ceremonies. Exceptions shall generally be restricted to mandatory relocation or documented emergency

Commented [#1]: I deleted what seemed to be a redundant and slightly contradictory statement. The deleted version says "an alternate ceremony [is] normally the first" after the emergency. The one I retained does not contain the "normally" statement, but simply says it will be the first one after the emergency. I don't have a preference, but I think it should be one or the other.

Commented [#2]: Is this the deadline for the first commencement ceremony they can't attend? Or is it the later one they can attend? If it is the first, that seems to say that emergencies will not be allowed if they occur after the normal deadline for applying. Is that the intent?

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