



Policy Title: AA3003 - Commencement

Subject Area: Academic

Responsible Official(s): Executive Vice President and Provost

Responsible Office(s): Commencement

Policy

University Commencement

Each year, the University hosts two commencement ceremonies to celebrate our graduates' accomplishments.

Ceremony Schedule

Spring Commencement: Held in May for students graduating in the spring term.

Fall Commencement: Held in December for students graduating in the fall term, as well as August graduates.

Note: August graduates are invited to participate in the December Commencement each year. There is no separate summer ceremony.

Eligibility for Participation

Only students who have applied and received official approval for graduation are eligible to participate in the commencement ceremony.

Students may find additional information about applying for graduation at:
<https://www.memphis.edu/commencement/apply/index.php>.

Faculty Participation Requirements

Faculty Involvement: At least 25% of full-time faculty members from each department are expected to participate in each commencement ceremony.

Selection Process: Department chairs are responsible for designating the faculty members who will represent their departments at the ceremony.

Student Marshals

Selection Criteria: Each undergraduate College and School will identify the undergraduate student(s) with the highest GPA *in their overall undergraduate studies* to act as its Student Marshal. Student Marshals are recognized by their Marshal's medallion and will lead the college across the stage.

Related Documents, Policies and Forms

[Commencement Office](#)

Last Revision Update Log: 01/28/2025

UM1277 – Issued: July 2, 2003 supercedes policy number 1:2B:01:08
AA3003 supercedes UM1277