



COLLEGE-WIDE POLICY

Student Participation in Commencement Ceremony Policy

Responsible Entity: President of the UC Enterprise

Functional Area[s]: Student Success

Approved Date: 10/31/2022

Policy Statement

Eligibility for Student Participation

Associate, baccalaureate, and master's degree-seeking students are eligible to participate in a commencement ceremony if they have met all academic requirements for their degree or will be within six (6) credits of completing their degree requirements by the date of the ceremony.

Students may only participate in one ceremony per earned degree and must participate within one (1) year of degree conferral.

Certificate students at both the undergraduate and graduate levels are not eligible to participate in a commencement ceremony. Students who withdraw or dismissed from the college prior to completing their degree requirements also may not participate in a commencement ceremony. The college reserves the right to revoke a student's ability to participate in a ceremony for other reasons [ex., behavioral misconduct].

Students must complete the application for degree to attend a commencement ceremony, as this prompts the Registrar's Office to confirm the completion of degree requirements for participation eligibility.

Identification of Students for Planning Purposes

The Registrar's Office will identify students who may be eligible to participate in a graduation ceremony [based on current enrollment] three months in advance of the next ceremony date and provide this tentative list to Marketing for planning purposes. Once these students are identified and have received detailed communication about commencement, they remain eligible to participate in said ceremony. This is regardless of enrollment changes such as stop out, course withdrawal, etc., that would otherwise put them beyond the six (6) credits required to participate and given that they complete an application for degree, and do not have any of the restrictions listed above in *Eligibility for Student Participation*.

Rationale

Providing guidelines for commencement eligibility will assist with the event's cost control and coordination, as well as to provide students the flexibility to attend a ceremony that fits their schedules.

Definition[s]

Commencement The ceremony recognizing completion of degree requirements at Unity College.

Confer[ral] The award of an accredited credential, displayed on the student transcript with an effective date.

Related Documents

POLICY: [Institutional Degree Conferral Policy](#)

Effective Date: **Immediately upon Senior Staff Endorsement and President Approval**