



UCCS CAMPUS POLICY

Policy Title: Participation in Commencement and other Academic Ceremonies

Policy Number: 200-004

Policy Functional Area: ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Effective:	August 5, 2016
Approved by:	Pam Shockley-Zalabak, Chancellor
Responsible Vice Chancellor:	Chancellor
Office of Primary Responsibility:	Academic Deans
Policy Primary Contact:	Academic Deans
Supersedes:	July 1, 1997; April 8, 2005
Last Reviewed/Updated:	May 5, 2016
Applies to:	Faculty and Students

Reason for Policy: The University of Colorado at Colorado Springs conducts ceremonies to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of students who have successfully completed the requirements for a degree. This policy governs participation by students in the major campus-wide recognition known as commencement.

I. INTRODUCTION

The University of Colorado at Colorado Springs conducts ceremonies to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of students who have successfully completed the requirements for a degree. This policy governs participation by students in the major campus-wide recognition known as commencement.

I. POLICY STATEMENT

A. Authority for all policies not mandated directly by the Board of Regents is contained in Article VIII, Sections 7-10 of the Laws of the Regents, and elucidated in the Administrative Policy Statement entitled, "Delegation of Authority to Chancellors to Adopt or Approve Campus By-Laws, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines."

B. PROCEDURES

1. Participation in commencement or any academic ceremony which recognizes or honors students for the completion of an academic program or specific academic accomplishment is based upon an understanding that all requirements have been completed. In a few instances, verification may not be possible whether due to error or unforeseen circumstances. Notwithstanding this reality, every effort will be made to determine eligibility in advance. Under ordinary circumstances, all students who have met requirements will be permitted to participate in commencement ceremonies or other ceremonies honoring the completion of specific academic requirements.

2. EXCEPTIONS

Exceptions to this policy require the approval of the dean of the college granting the degree. Circumstances that might justify exceptions include but are not limited to: a student whose eligibility to graduate is in dispute and under appeal, a student whose health or personal circumstances are such that it is virtually certain that it would be impossible for the student to participate in a future commencement or other academic ceremony (e.g. a terminal illness or legal requirement that the student must leave the country following completion of degree requirements). Recommendations from a department chair, faculty member or university official may be submitted, but are not required, except as provided for by the internal procedures of a particular college. There shall be no right to appeal the decision of the dean except on grounds that the decision was based upon incorrect information or failure to honor the provisions of this policy.

3. IMPLEMENTATION

A statement concerning this policy shall be included in the next published editions of the University catalog, bulletin, all subsequent class schedules, and in all materials concerning commencement procedures and requirements as well as similar materials related to other academic ceremonies covered by this policy.

II. DEFINITIONS

III. RELATED POLICIES, PROCEDURES, FORMS, GUIDELINES, AND OTHER RESOURCES

- A. Administrative Policy Statements (APS) and Other Policies
- B. Procedures
- C. Forms
- D. Guidelines
- E. Other Resources
- F. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

IV. HISTORY

Initial policy approved	July 1, 1997
Revised	April 8, 2005