

Walker Policy

Policy Number: 05.033
Policy Type: Academic
Policy Title: Walker Policy
Approval Bodies: AAAT and APRC
Governing Body: Faculty Assembly
Revision Date: 3.2.2016

The commencement ceremony is held on a Saturday following the end of Spring term. Generally, students are expected to have completed all degree requirements prior to the commencement ceremony and will graduate on the date of the ceremony.

The Registrar will present an initial list of potential graduates to the faculty during the registration period for Spring quarter so that these students may be advised to register for any outstanding requirements for graduation. The Academic Policy and Review Committee presents the names of candidates for graduation to the faculty for a vote once a year during the last week of Spring term, and only students approved by the faculty will be permitted to participate in commencement and graduate during that year. Regardless of approval by the faculty to be included in the ceremony, only students who complete all degree requirements by the end of Spring term and clear all outstanding financial obligations to the College will be considered graduates at the end of Spring term.

Students who have completed all degree requirements but have not cleared outstanding financial obligations to the College may participate in the commencement ceremony but will not receive their diplomas or transcripts until the outstanding financial obligations have been met. Students who have not completed all of the degree requirements will be permitted to participate in the commencement ceremony under the following “walker” policy:

- Written Walker Petitions are approved by the APRC and the faculty approves the list prior to graduation. The petition must present a detailed, realistic plan for completion of the degree, have the signatures of all faculty members involved in the plan and the student’s academic advisor, and be submitted the Registrar before the end of the seventh week of Spring term. The Registrar and the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs will make an initial determination on the petition and forward to the faculty any petitions deserving consideration;
- The student must be able to complete the remaining work in one or two quarters in any of the following combinations:
 - One cooperative education experience with its associated work portfolio, a language course, and an optional class over co-op (for a total of up to 8 credits); or
 - One study term for up to 18 credits; or
 - Two cooperative education experiences with their associated work portfolios, language courses, and optional classes over co-op (for a total of up to 8 credits per quarter); or
 - Two study terms for up to 18 credits each

- One cooperative education experience with its associated work portfolio, a language course, and an optional class over co-op (for a total of up to 8 credits) **and** one study term for up to 18 credits
- The plan for completing the outstanding work demonstrates that the work will be finished during the Summer following the commencement ceremony in question, except in circumstances indicated below.

Students who have not completed all degree requirements and are approved to participate in the commencement ceremony are expected to complete all requirements during the Summer term following commencement. They will have a graduation date effective the Summer co-op ending date.

The Registrar will make the final determination of whether or not the students approved to participate in commencement prior to completing requirements have satisfied the graduation requirements.

Students who are granted a reduced course load because of a documented disability may petition APRC for an exception to this walker policy.

Students are permitted to participate in only one graduation ceremony. A student who walks in one year's ceremony but does not complete all graduation requirements by the end of the next Fall quarter will not be permitted to walk in the next year's ceremony.

Any student who will not be able to meet all the requirements for graduation as stated in this policy or the conditions for being a walker will not be considered for graduation until the following year.