Graduation

To be eligible for any degree, a student must have completed the requirements as approved by the University Senate, except that curriculum substitutions may be made by the college affected if not inconsistent with these rules. Curriculum requirements must include, in addition to specified credits, a specified grade-point average both overall and in the student’s major which may in no case be less than 2.0. Every baccalaureate degree program must include five divisions or components: (1) UK Core, (2) premajor or preprofessional, (3) general college requirements (if any), (4) major or professional, and (5) free electives. Information about degree requirements may be found at [http://www.uky.edu/registrar/major-sheets](http://www.uky.edu/registrar/major-sheets) or in APEX.

To be eligible for an undergraduate degree, a student must file an application online through myUK by the following dates:

- November 30 for degrees to be awarded the following May
- February 28 for degrees to be awarded the following August
- June 30 for degrees to be awarded the following December

If the student misses the above deadlines, he/she should contact his/her Student Services Office in his/her college.

Students should be encouraged to review APEX to make sure all of their requirements are completed or will be completed by the semester they wish to graduate.

Commencement Honors

Students who attain a grade-point average of 3.8 or higher for at least three years (90 hours) of work at the University (excepting correspondence study) shall be graduated “Summa Cum Laude.”

Students who attain a grade-point average of 3.6 or higher for at least three years (90 hours) of work at the University (excepting correspondence study) shall be graduated “Magna Cum Laude.”

Students who attain a grade-point average of 3.4 or higher for at least three years (90 hours) of work at the University (excepting correspondence study) shall be graduated “Cum Laude.”

Students with a minimum of two (60 hours) but less than three years (90 hours) of work at the University will receive the appropriate commencement honors if they attain a
grade-point average of 0.2 greater than those specified for three years of residence work.

The bachelor’s degree with honors in a student’s major or a degree with honors from a professional college will be conferred upon a student whom the faculty of the student’s department, or college, in the case of a professional college, and the dean of the student’s college recommend receive the degree. A student may be required to complete work in addition to that required for the bachelor’s or professional degree to receive a degree with honors. The degree with honors from a professional college is based solely upon work done in the professional college.

All students in the Honors program of the University who do not have grade-point standing of 3.5 or better but are in the top 10 percent of their college’s class are eligible to graduate in the Honors program if they satisfy the other requirements and have approval of the Honors Program Director.

Work done in the Kentucky Community and Technical College System shall not be counted as work at the University of Kentucky in calculating the grade-point average for honors.

**Additional Bachelor’s Degrees**

A student is eligible to qualify for additional Bachelor’s degrees in different majors. The student must complete all university, college, and departmental requirements for all degrees. Courses taken towards fulfilling one degree may also count towards fulfilling parallel requirements in another degree, but the student must complete at least 24 additional hours for each degree (minimum of 144 hours for a second degree and 168 hours for a third degree). The student may elect to receive the degrees simultaneously if college and departmental requirements can be met simultaneously.

**Commencement Ceremonies**

There are two commencement ceremonies held each year; one in December and one in May. The December ceremony is the Friday of finals week. The May ceremony is either the Saturday of finals week or the Sunday after finals week depending on when Derby Day falls. If Derby Day is the Saturday of finals week then commencement will be the Sunday after Derby Day. If Derby Day is the Saturday before finals week, then commencement will be on Saturday of finals week. August graduates may choose to participate in either ceremony. Students are required to register for the commencement ceremonies at [www.uky.edu/commencement](http://www.uky.edu/commencement).

Graduation