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 Ceremonies & Univ Events/
 VPMC PAG Liaison
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References:

Acceptable Academic Regalia for Commencement Ceremonies

POLICY STATEMENT

In recognition of the significance of commencement, all University of North Dakota (UND) commencement ceremony participants must wear full academic regalia – gown, cap, tassel and, if appropriate to degree, a hood representative of the highest degree they hold/will be receiving.

An academic honors-based or affiliation-based cord/stole is permissible for undergraduate candidates. Culturally-based adornments to the academic regalia are permissible. To be appropriately recognized in the commencement program, all cords/stoles and culturally-based adornments must be pre-approved.

REASON FOR POLICY

Defining acceptable academic regalia ensures that a high-quality, consistent, academically appropriate look is maintained at each of the University's commencement ceremonies by having all commencement participants wear full University-approved academic regalia.

SCOPE OF POLICY

This policy applies to:

- President
- Vice Presidents
- Deans, Directors & Department Heads
- Area Managers & Supervisors
- Faculty
- Staff
- Students

RELATED INFORMATION

International Academic Costume Code	https://www.acenet.edu/Programs-Services/Pages/Academic-Regalia.aspx
School of Law Graduation	https://law.UND.edu/
School of Medicine and Health Sciences	https://med.UND.edu/

Graduation	
UND Commencement Academic Regalia	https://UND.edu/academics/commencement/regalia
UND Commencement FAQs	https://UND.edu/academics/commencement/
UND Events Calendar	https://calendar.UND.edu/

CONTACTS

Specific questions should be directed to the following:

Subject	Contact	Telephone	Office or Department E-Mail or Web Address
Academic Regalia	Ceremonies & University Events	(701) 777-6393	https://UND.edu/academics/commencement/regalia UND.commcement@UND.edu
Academic Honor Cords/Stoles	Ceremonies & University Events	(701) 777-6393	https://UND.edu/academics/commencement/regalia UND.commcement@UND.edu
Culturally-based Adornments	Ceremonies & University Events	(701) 777-6393	https://UND.edu/academics/commencement/regalia UND.commcement@UND.edu
Cum, Magma and Summa Cum Laude Honor Medallions	Office of the Registrar	(701) 777-3761	https://apps.UND.edu/graduationonline/ https://UND.edu/academics/commencement/regalia
Graduate Hood Color	School of Graduate Studies	(701) 777-2784	https://UND.edu/academics/graduate-school/ https://UND.edu/academics/commencement/regalia
Regalia Rental/Purchase	UND Bookstore / Herff Jones	701-777-4980	http://colleges.herffjones.com/college/_UND/
Tassel Color	Ceremonies & University Events	(701) 777-6393	https://UND.edu/academics/commencement/regalia UND.commcement@UND.edu

DEFINITIONS

Academic Honor Cords/ Stoles	Includes those items representing academic honors from a nationally recognized academic honor society representing a field of study at UND.
Affiliation-Based Cords	Includes UND legacy cords signifying students with parents or grandparents who are graduates of UND, veterans' cords representing students with military service, first-generation cords representing students who are first in their immediate family to receive a bachelor's degree, or UND Athletics stoles for UND student athletes.
Culturally-	Includes, but is not limited to, eagle feathers, Kente cloths and authentic floral leis.

based Adornments	
Doctoral Academic Regalia	Includes UND-custom doctoral gown, doctoral hood with identifying discipline color, black tam, and black tassel.
Faculty Academic Regalia	Includes gown, tam, tassel, and hood representing the higher education institution from which the faculty member received their highest degree.
Master's Academic Regalia	Includes UND-custom master's gown, master's hood with identifying discipline color, black mortarboard, and black tassel.
UND Honor Medallion	The only official UND-sponsored regalia adornment, these medallions are distributed to eligible undergraduate candidates who have achieved an institutional cumulative GPA of 3.50 or higher in graded (not S/U grading) credit hours completed at UND. A minimum of 50 graded UND credit hours is required.
Undergraduate Academic Regalia	Includes black academic gown, black mortarboard, and tassel (color varies by college).

PRINCIPLES

Overview

UND Commencement is the capstone event of every student's university experience. The completion of a degree is an occasion for graduates, family members, friends, and the University to come together to celebrate. It is a time to embrace long-standing academic traditions befitting the dignity of the degree to be received, while enjoying a personal sense of accomplishment and recognition of a major life milestone. It is a time to honor past academic success and to embrace the opportunities of the future.

In recognition of the significance of commencement, all UND commencement participants must wear full academic regalia – gown, cap, tassel and, if appropriate to degree, a hood representative of the highest degree they hold/will be receiving. Academic honors-based and culturally-based adornments to academic regalia (e.g., academic honor cords/stoles, affiliation-based cords, or culturally-based symbols) are listed in the commencement program. Questions concerning recognition of honor cords/stoles and/or culturally-based adornments in the program should be directed to the Office of Ceremonies and University Events.

UND follows the guidelines of the International Academic Costume Code describing regalia for participants including embellishments (cords/stoles, culturally-based adornments, etc.) to UND's commencement regalia. Defining acceptable academic regalia ensures that a high-quality, consistent, academically-appropriate look is maintained at each of the University's commencement ceremonies by having all commencement participants wear full University-approved academic regalia.

UND Custom Academic Regalia

To strengthen the University's brand and ensure a consistent, professional, and broadly identifiable appearance the University utilizes UND-specific, custom academic regalia for students receiving professional and graduate degrees. Other commencement ceremony participants, including faculty members and

administrators, will wear regalia representing the higher education institution from which they received their highest academic degree. Costs for commencement regalia are the responsibility of each graduate or faculty member through rental or purchase from the University Bookstore or directly through UND's regalia supplier, Herff Jones.

PROCEDURES

Students, faculty and administration are permitted to participate in commencement ceremonies wearing the appropriate academic regalia. Special exceptions include official members of religious orders and military service men and women who may wear traditional/customary ministerial robes and military service dress uniforms respectively.

All commencement ceremony participants should secure regalia from the UND Bookstore or through regalia supplier, Herff Jones (see Contacts), at least 30 days prior to the ceremony.

Undergraduate Degree Students

Undergraduate students will wear University-approved undergraduate academic regalia. Regalia is available for purchase through the University Bookstore.

Undergraduate students who are graduating with academic honors (cum laude, magna cum laude, or summa cum laude) will receive a special academic honors medallion from UND during the pre-commencement ceremony assembly process.

Cords/Stoles and Cultural Adornments

The University recognizes a number of academic honors-based and culturally-based adornments to academic regalia (e.g., academic honor cords/stoles, affiliation-based cords, or culturally-based symbols). These are listed in the commencement program. Individuals seeking recognition of honor cords/stoles not already listed in the program (see Related Information: UND Commencement regalia information) must have a UND academic honor society advisor complete the academic regalia adornment request (see Forms) at least 30 days prior to commencement. Individuals seeking recognition of culturally-based adornments in the program should consult with the Office of Ceremonies and University Events at least 30 days prior to commencement, who will consult with a network of campus and off-campus resources.

Affiliation-Based Cords

Students graduating from UND with parents or grandparents who are graduates of UND are eligible to receive and wear a green, white, and pink legacy cord. These are available through the UND Alumni Association and Foundation.

Veterans graduating from UND are eligible to receive and wear a red, white, and blue cord representing their service. These are available through the Office of Veteran and Nontraditional Student Services.

Students who are the first in their immediate family to graduate with a bachelor's degree from a college or university are recognized with a multi-colored first-generation cord, available through TRIO Programs.

Legacy, veterans', and first-generation cords are already included in the commencement program.

Professional, Doctoral, and Master's Degree Students

Professional and doctoral degree students are required to wear University-approved regalia. Professional degrees (law and medicine) and doctoral degree recipients will wear UND-specific, custom doctoral academic regalia with appropriate degree-specific hoods. Master's degree recipients will wear UND-specific, custom master's academic regalia with discipline-specific hoods.

Because academic hoods are the highest honor bestowed on a student receiving a professional or graduate degree, the presence of adornments that compete with or detract from the hood signifying that degree are not allowed.

Academic regalia for all professional degree (M.D. and J.D.) graduates and all doctoral and master's degree graduates is available through a regalia rental program through Herff Jones and facilitated through the UND Bookstore.

Faculty/Administration

Members of faculty and administration participating in commencement will wear appropriate faculty academic regalia representing their highest degree and the institution from which they received it. Exceptions include the president's regalia. UND's official presidential regalia is specific to the president and the University and is provided by UND.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Ceremonies and University Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicate commencement details with campus community (graduates, faculty, staff, etc.) • Distribute information concerning regalia requirements to students, faculty members, and administrators • Answer questions concerning appropriate regalia • Approve and enter academic honor society and adornment information in commencement program
Office of the Registrar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify undergraduate students eligible to receive UND academic honor medallions; distribute medallions at commencement and post-ceremony • Assist in conveying information on commencement regalia requirements to students
School of Graduate Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute information concerning regalia requirements to students and faculty • Confirm eligibility of students to wear degree-specific regalia
School of Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute information concerning regalia requirements to students and faculty • Coordinate regalia rental program for law graduates
School of Medicine and Health Sciences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute information concerning regalia requirements to students and faculty • Coordinate regalia rental program for M.D. graduates

UND Alumni Association and Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute legacy cords to graduating students whose parents or grandparents have graduated from UND
University Bookstore/Herff Jones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make UND regalia available for purchase or rental to graduating students and participating faculty members/administrators
Veteran and Nontraditional Student Services and TRIO Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute cords to graduating students who are veterans • Distribute cords to graduating students who are first-generation graduates

FORMS

Academic Regalia Adornment Request	Contact the Office of Ceremonies and University Events
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APPENDICES

There are no appendices associated with this policy.

Attachments

No Attachments

Approval Signatures

Approver	Date
Jennifer Rogers: Policy Office	07/2021
Fred Wittmann: Director Ceremonies & Univ Events/VPMC PAG Liaison	07/2021

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