

**Student Participation in School of Nursing
Commencement Ceremonies**

The School of Nursing (SON) holds Commencement ceremonies annually in May. The following conditions are required for student participation in the May commencement:

PhD: PhD students must have completed and successfully defended their dissertation and filed the final dissertation with the Graduate School by the Graduate School deadline.

DNP: DNP students must have completed and successfully defended their DNP Project and filed the final project with the Graduate School by the Graduate School deadline.

With the approval of the Director of Graduate Practice Programs, students who missed the Spring deadline for filing the final version of their DNP Project with the Graduate School may "walk" early in the May SON Commencement. In this circumstance, the committee chair will send an email to the Program Director (with a copy to the student) signifying that the student has *successfully defended* the final version of the DNP Project by the Graduate School deadline. The Program Director will respond via e-mail to the committee chair and student confirming eligibility to walk at SON graduation.

MSN: Students must have completed all course work including removal of any incompletes, passed their comprehensive examination and completed/successfully defended and turned in a copy of their completed MSN Paper (or thesis).

With the approval of the Director of Graduate Practice Programs (Program Director), students who missed the SON Spring deadline for filling the final version of their Master's Paper may "walk" in the May SON Commencement. In this circumstance, the committee chair will send an email to the Program Director (with a copy to the student) signifying that the student has successfully defended the final version of the MSN paper (or thesis) by the SON deadline. The Program Director will respond via e-mail to the committee chair and student confirming eligibility to walk at SON Commencement after confirming that all other criteria are met with the SON Registrar.

BSN: Students must have completed all course work including removal of any incompletes. Under special circumstances, BSN students may "walk" early in May SON Commencement with documented approval of the BSN Program Director.

Under all circumstance, a student may participate in Commencement only once. The date the University will confer the degree is the date that will be listed in the Commencement program. That is, if a DNP student did not meet the deadlines for submitting the final version of their DNP Project to the Graduate School, and had received permission from the Program Director to "walk in May", the Commencement program would list that person as an August graduate.

Approved by Administrative Council, 3/28/03; revised 02/09; revised 02/14/12, 3/7/14

S: sharedoc/Guidelines-Policies-Procedures/Student Participation in Commencement Ceremonies.doc; REVISED AND APPROVED BY AAC 2/23/2016