

University Policies

Policy Name: University Undergraduate Graduation Requirements	Effective Date: August 1, 2008
Custodian of Policy: Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs	Last Review: August, 2005
	Next Review: September, 2011

Policy:

- A. To be eligible for graduation with a baccalaureate degree from Minnesota State University, Mankato, a student:
1. Must have earned a minimum of 120 semester credit hours.
 2. Must have a cumulative (including transfer credits) and a local Minnesota State University GPA of at least 2.0.
 3. Must have all grades finalized (all grades of I, IP, or Z may not be on the permanent record).
 4. Must have completed at least 40 semester credits of upper-division (300-400) courses.
 5. Must have completed Minnesota State University, Mankato general education requirements or the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum.
 6. Must meet Minnesota State University, Mankato Cultural Diversity or Diverse Cultures requirement, whichever is applicable.
 7. Must not exceed 32 credits of P/N grading.
 8. Must meet the requirements for an academic major:
 - a. Standard Majors are 32-47 credits. Standard majors require completion of a minor. Departments may recommend waiver of minor for students completing a double major.
 - b. Broad majors exceed 47 credits and do not require a minor.
 - c. Academic requirements for majors and minors may be more stringent than university minimum requirements.
 9. Must graduate under requirements identified in a bulletin of no more than seven years preceding the date of graduation. Students also must complete all the requirements under a single bulletin.
 10. Must have earned at least 30 semester undergraduate credit hours from Minnesota State University, Mankato. Departments and Colleges may have more stringent residency requirements
- B. To be eligible for graduation with an Associate of Arts (AA) degree from Minnesota State University, Mankato, a student:
1. Must have earned at least 60 semester credit hours and completed the Minnesota State University, Mankato general education program. Completion of the Minnesota State University, Mankato general education program is required as part of the AA degree program and completion of general education meets the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum requirements.
 2. Must have a cumulative (including transfer credits) and a local Minnesota State University GPA of at least 2.0.
 3. Must have all grades finalized (all grades of I, IP, or Z may not be on the permanent record).
 4. Must not exceed 16 credits of P/N grading.
 5. Graduation Residency:
 - a. Must have earned at least 20 credits from Minnesota State University, Mankato.
- C. Graduation with Honors
 To qualify for Graduation with University Honors (Cum Laude, Magna Cum Laude or Summa Cum Laude), a student:
1. Must meet all requirements for a bachelor's degree.

2. Must earn a minimum of 40 semester undergraduate credit hours from Minnesota State University, Mankato.
3. Must have the appropriate minimum cumulative (including transfer credits) grade point average to satisfy honor requirements.
 - a. Cum Laude: minimum cumulative GPA of 3.3.
 - b. Magna Cum Laude: minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5.
 - c. Summa Cum Laude: minimum cumulative GPA of 3.8.

For a student's name to be listed in the Commencement Program, the requirements must be met the semester BEFORE graduation. While the number of credit hours earned during the graduation term does not affect the determination of graduation honors for recognition at Commencement, quality points earned during the graduation term are considered in calculating the final GPA which determines the graduation honors for the transcript and diploma. To be recognized in the Commencement Program as achieving graduation honors, students must be graduating the term in which commencement is held.

Procedures:

Implementation of the 120-Credit Graduation Requirement

1. ALL university programs are required to submit a program proposal:
 - a. documenting how the 120-credit graduation standard will be satisfied
 - or
 - b. applying for a MnSCU credit-length waiver/exemption.
2. All undergraduate program proposals submitted after August 1, 2008 shall conform to the 120-credit graduation requirement. Any program requesting more than 120 credits shall include the appropriate MnSCU forms. Please see MnSCU Policy 3.36 and Procedures 3.36.1.

Policy Rationale:

The University must restructure undergraduate graduation requirements to align with state statute and MnSCU Procedure 3.36.1 Academic Programs. The proposed revised policy aligns the University undergraduate graduation requirement and continues to allow Minnesota State University, Mankato departments and Colleges to determine specific graduation policies in excess of minimum university requirements. This policy is effective with the start of fall semester 2008, and is not retroactive.

