

USE OF CORDS, STOLES, AND OTHER MARKS OF DISTINCTION AT UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT POLICY

Date Effective: November 9, 2016
Issued By: President, Provost and Deans' Council
Contact: Kristin Stiglitz, Chair, Commencement Committee

Purpose: This policy is to describe the process and procedures for use of Cords, Stoles, and Other Marks of Distinction at University Commencements.

Over the last several years, there has been a growing use of cords and stoles by Clarion University honor societies and other student organizations to distinguish their graduates at university commencements. These items have been worn by students as part of their academic attire in addition to the gold, blue, and white cords issued by the university to formally recognize the academic honors of Summa Cum Laude (3.80-4.00), Magna Cum Laude (3.60-3.79), and Cum Laude (3.40-3.59), respectively.

Policy: In consultation with the President and the Deans' Council, the Provost has advised that only cords, stoles, pins, or other marks of distinction associated with recognized student organizations shall be permitted to be worn by graduates with their academic attire at university commencements and meet the following guidelines:

- Blue, gold, and white cords should only be used by the academic honors of Summa Cum Laude (3.80-4.00), Magna Cum Laude (3.60-3.79), and Cum Laude (3.40-3.59), respectively.
- Must represent a registered student organization or be issued by a University office. No personal, individual stoles allowed.
- Not to exceed 62 inches in length by 5 inches wide

In addition, we kindly ask that personal modifications to the mortarboards (caps) be limited to those expressing well-wishing and gratitude or affiliation with sanctioned organization. Students are not permitted to have unacceptable decorations, offense language or inappropriate images on the mortarboards. Students not following these guidelines could be pulled from the graduation line up.

Procedures: Must be approved in advance through the University Commencement Review Committee. A written request from the university representative or office must be submitted for approval to the Commencement Committee, Chairperson, 202 Carrier Hall, stating the request.

Review Committee:
Kristin Stiglitz, Chair
Erin Schuetz
Hope Lineman