

Commencement Dates and Degree Conferral

USSS-13



About This Policy

Effective Date:

07-01-2013

Last Updated:

06-25-1998

Responsible University Office:

University Registrar, University Student Services and Systems

Responsible University Administrator:

Executive Vice President for University Academic Affairs Academic Leadership Council

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Scope

All campuses of Indiana University are affected by this policy. Registrar offices, academic units, and students would be interested in this policy.

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Policy Statement

The following points will serve as guidelines for the degree conferral dates that all campuses will use:

- If there is a commencement ceremony, the degrees will be conferred effective the date of the ceremony.
- If there is no commencement ceremony, then degrees will be conferred effective the last day of the term.
- Graduate degrees can be awarded monthly or the last day of the term ending in that month

Undergraduate Degrees	Graduate & Professional Degrees
May (Commencement Date)	May (Commencement Date)
June 30	June 30
July (Last Day of Summer Term, if it falls in July; otherwise no July conferral date)	Last Day of Summer Term, if it falls in July; otherwise July 31
August (Last Day of Summer Term, if it falls in August; otherwise no August conferral date)	Last Day of Summer Term, if it falls in August; otherwise August 31

	September 30
	October 31
	November 30
December (BL Commencement Date) (Others – Last Day of Term)	December (BL Commencement Date) (Others – Last Day of Term)
	January 31
	February 28
	March 31
	April 30
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Reason For Policy

The attached request for a change in degree conferral dates is a result of wanting to provide students with better service by minimizing the time from the end of a term to the date when a degree is conferred. This will allow students to obtain official transcripts or be officially certified in a timelier manner.

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Procedure

The Offices of the Registrar use standard dates across all campuses as the Degree Conferral Date that is recorded on student transcripts for each term. These dates are maintained in IU’s Student Information System (SIS).

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Definitions

Term: A Term is equivalent to a semester; individual Sessions are associated with Terms; an academic year consists of three sixteen-week terms (Fall, Spring, Summer) or some programs utilize four twelve-week terms (Fall, Winter, Spring, Summer).

Commencement: Commencement is a university ceremony where the University President, Trustees, academic officers, faculty, graduating students, and their families and guests, assemble for the purpose of conferring degrees upon the newly certified graduates. The conferral of degrees is performed by the President with the approval of the Board of Trustees upon recommendation of the faculty.

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History

An existing ‘policy’ does exist. Revision history: 1998, 1982. See Memorandum in [Related Information](#).