

# Graduation

## Application for Graduation and Graduation Agreement

Candidates for graduation must complete and submit an application for graduation and graduation agreement at least one year prior to the anticipated graduation date. The graduation application begins the degree audit process.

The Office of Registrar will conduct degree audits on behalf of the student. If deficiencies are discovered, the student will be removed as a candidate for completion and participation in Commencement; it is the student's responsibility to notify his or her family of the change. If a new definitive plan is submitted addressing and correcting the deficiencies, the student may be reinstated as a graduation candidate.

Prior to the senior year, students should check the schedule of classes and registration procedures to determine the deadlines for submitting the application for graduation. Students are solely responsible for ensuring that their academic programs comply with the policies of the University and meet all graduation requirements.

Visit <http://www.taylor.edu/academics/registrar/graduation.shtml> for details regarding the application for graduation and graduation agreement.

## Commencement and Diplomas

Effective with December 2006 Graduates

A student may complete graduation requirements at the end of any of Taylor University instructional terms concluding in December, January, May, June, July, or August. However, the Commencement ceremony is held only in May at the end of the spring term. Attendance at Commencement is expected; however if a graduate is unable to participate, written notification of *in absentia* should be submitted to the Office of the Registrar.

Summer graduation candidates may participate in Commencement if they have no more than 8 credit hours remaining and have submitted a plan to complete these hours by the respective official summer graduation date.

December and January graduates are eligible to participate in the ceremony following their official graduation.

Diplomas will be mailed to graduates within three weeks of the conferral date following submission of final grades and completion of the final degree audit by the Office of the Registrar. Graduates must fulfill all financial obligations to the University before he or she receives a diploma.

## Academic Honors

Effective with December 2006 Graduates

In recognition of superior scholarship, the University awards three levels of honors at graduation: *cum laude*, *magna cum laude* and *summa cum laude*. *Cum laude* is awarded to those students with a GPA of at least 3.50. *Magna cum laude* is awarded to those students with a minimum GPA of 3.70. *Summa cum laude* is awarded to those with a minimum GPA of 3.90.

Final graduation honors placed on diplomas and transcripts are designated for those students who have fully completed all course work and requirements for their baccalaureate degrees. Graduation honors are computed on Taylor University credit hours only; fifty percent of the minimum degree hours must be completed at Taylor University. Associate degrees are not eligible to receive honors.

**For commencement ceremony purposes only**, honors will be announced and appropriate honors regalia worn using the GPA calculated after January interterm.

## Major/Minor GPA Calculation

Effective with December 2005 Graduates

Only courses with a grade of C- or better will count in satisfying major/minor credit hour requirements. However, the institutional ("default") methodology for computing the major or minor GPA will be to include all courses that could be counted toward the major/minor, including courses in which a grade below C- is earned. This includes courses taken in cognates, tracks, supporting areas, etc.

All major and minor programs will continue to have a 2.3 major and minor GPA requirement with the exception of social work which requires a 2.5 major GPA. Individual programs may have circumstances unique to the discipline that would suggest that major or minor GPA requirements might be more appropriately computed in a specific manner.

## Senior Comprehensive Examination/Paper/Project

A candidate for a baccalaureate degree must successfully complete comprehensive examination, project, or paper in the major field of study. This examination is given during the senior year. A student is allowed a maximum of three attempts to pass the comprehensive examination in any single major. If a student intends to graduate with more than one major, a comprehensive examination, project, or paper is required for each major. The examinations, projects, or papers are to be marked superior, pass, or fail.