



OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR 2026-2027 Graduation Guidelines

REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

- Please adhere to your Catalog of entry:

All Students must meet:

- General Education Requirements
- Minimum of 124 hours towards graduation
- 2.00 grade point average in major and overall
- Grade of “C” in all required courses (including Core General Education)
- Repeated courses will not count toward graduation
- All Developmental courses (MAT091, ENG100, REA091, etc.) will not count towards graduation
- Requirements must be met by deadlines listed on the “Dates and Deadlines” document and the College’s Academic Calendar.

APPLICATION PROCESS

- All students planning to complete requirements in December, May, or during the summer must submit an *Application for Degree by September 25, 2026*, in order for the Office of the Registrar to work with your academic advisor to complete the Senior Audit. *The audit must be finalized and sent to the Office of the Registrar by December 4, 2026*
- The student must meet with their advisor to determine graduation status.
- Students not on track must discuss graduation options with their major advisor to determine the graduation date for the next graduation cycle.
- All application deadlines are enforced as stated in the academic calendar.

LATIN HONORS AT GRADUATION

- Bachelor’s and Associate degree students
- Calculated after all final grades are posted
- Students will wear gold, blue, white, or red honor cards of the honor designation.
- Honors awarded to students meeting the following cumulative grade point average at graduation:
 - With honors 3.00 - 3.19 - Red
 - Cum laude 3.20 - 3.49 - White
 - Magna cum laude 3.50 - 3.79 - Blue
 - Summa cum laude 3.80 - 4.00 - Gold

Master’s degree seeking students are not eligible for Latin Honors

CEREMONY PARTICIPATION

- Students who have completed the application for degree by the deadline, have all requirements completed, have no debts with the college, and have been cleared through the senior clearance process
 - May have honors recognition
 - Will have degree conferred and added to the official transcript.
- **As of October 14, 2018, the “Walking Policy” has been ELIMINATED. All students must complete all degree requirements prior to participating in the graduation ceremony at Tougaloo College.**

DIPLOMAS



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- Diplomas will be sent electronically and mailed to students by regular USPS mail to the address listed on file in the Office of the Registrar. Any changes or corrections to your original application for degree may delay receiving your diploma.

REGALIA

The **Regalia Attire** is the traditional black cap and gown for Bachelor's and Master's Degree candidates and maroon for Associate Degree candidates.

- Ladies should wear light material under their academic gown with black shoes and modest jewelry.
- Men should wear dark pants, ties, and a white shirt under their academic gown and black shoes.

SENIOR CLEARANCE

The ***Senior Clearance Process*** will be available online from the ***Office of the Registrar*** prior to the upcoming graduation date and must be completed online via the Loo. Approval from the ***Office of the Registrar*** may be secured after final grades have been submitted and all degree requirements have been successfully completed and verified.

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

The Baccalaureate and Commencement Ceremony is required for all graduating students.

The Commencement Exercise for the ***2026-2027 Academic Year*** is currently scheduled for **Sunday, May 2, 2027**, for students completing all degree requirements as of ***Summer 2026, Fall 2026, and Spring 2027***.

- All candidates for graduation must apply by completing an Application for Degree located on the Loo.

Click on the Student tab, then click on Office of the Registrar, then click on Application for Degree.

The **Application for Degree** is **REQUIRED** and **MUST** be submitted to the ***Office of the Registrar*** by the deadline posted for the date the candidate intends to complete the requirements. If degree requirements are NOT met by the date requested on the **Application for Degree**, the candidate must reapply by completing another **Application for Degree form** to be considered for the next intended graduation date.

Only students with a current **Application for Degree** on file in the **Office of the Registrar** will be considered for graduation.

The graduation fee is ***\$150.00*** for costs associated with graduation. This includes the Diploma, Cap/Gown, and other graduation expenses. This fee is non-refundable.

If a student applies for graduation and the degree is **not conferred for the requested graduation term**, the graduation application will **not automatically carry forward to a future term**. The student will be required to **begin the graduation application process again** for the appropriate graduation term, which includes paying an **additional \$150.00** graduation fee.



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GRADUATING STUDENTS REQUIRED DATES AND DEADLINES ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-2027

FALL 2026	
September 18, 2026	Mandatory Senior Class Meeting (BGT Auditorium) 11:00 a.m.
September 25, 2026	Fall/Spring Graduation Application Deadline **NO EXCEPTIONS**
October 5, 2026	Seniors begin meeting with their Major Advisor to complete the "Graduation Verification Process" to verify hours, grades, courses, etc.; must pass 124 college credit hours, complete all required courses in the major, and have a 2.00 CGPA for undergraduates. Graduate students are required to have a 3.00 CGPA.
October 12, 2026	Senior Clearance Form available online via the Loo (Students completing degree requirements in Fall 2026)
October 16, 2026	Deadline to submit Senior Thesis for students completing degree requirements in the Fall 2026 semester. Deadline to submit Senior Thesis Topics and Statements for Spring graduates.
October 19, 2026	The Office of the Registrar sends a list of potential graduates to the Schools to review Senior Audits for all students who submitted an Application for Degree by September 25, 2026.
SPRING 2027	
January 22, 2027	Mandatory Senior Class Meeting
February 5, 2027	Application for Degree Deadline for Summer Graduates **NO EXCEPTIONS**
February 15, 2027	Graduating Student Clearance Sheets available online via the Loo (May 2027 Graduation)
March 31, 2027	Community Services Hours and Experiential Learning Packet must be completed.
April 7-9, 2027	Senior Thesis Presentations (May and Summer graduates)
April 14, 2027	All degree requirements must be completed and on file in the Office of the Registrar, with the exception of final exams.
April 15, 2027	An electronic copy (with three signatures: 1st reader, 2nd reader, and Dept. Chair) of the cover page of the senior paper must be submitted to your division dean by 5:00 p.m. (May and August graduates)
April 16, 2027	The first submission of the senior paper to your major advisor is to be uploaded to Turnitin.com.
April 16, 2027	Final Deadline for paying outstanding fees to the Office of the Bursar, including \$150.00 graduation fee.
April 19-21, 2027	Graduating Students Final Examinations
April 23, 2027	Mandatory Graduation Rehearsal Meeting begins at 11 a.m. at the Chapel.
April 26, 2027	Graduating Students' Grades Due by 10 a.m. All degree requirements must be met.
April 27, 2027	Registrar's Office Senior Clearance begins.
April 29, 2027	Senior Clearance Sheets must be submitted electronically to the Office of the Registrar. ALL FEES AND REQUIREMENTS MUST BE SATISFIED **NO EXCEPTIONS** Pick up Cap and Gown between 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Blackmon 1st Floor.
May 2, 2027	Baccalaureate Service (Required) - 8 a.m.
May 2, 2027	Commencement Ceremony (Required) - 10 a.m.
SUMMER 2027	
June 23, 2027	Senior Clearance Sheets are available online in the Office of the Registrar (students completing requirements during the summer)
July 23, 2027	Senior Clearance Sheets must be submitted electronically to the Office of the Registrar
July 23, 2027	Degree requirements are due in the Office of the Registrar by 5:00 p.m. for summer graduates.



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