

## Commencement Participation Policy

It is the policy of the University of South Carolina Beaufort that students participating (i.e., “walking”) in the commencement ceremony have completed or can reasonably complete outstanding degree requirements in a timely manner.

Participation in commencement does not signify degree conferral. Commencement is a ceremony conducted in anticipation of meeting all degree requirements. The University of South Carolina Beaufort holds two ceremonies; Spring Commencement and Fall Graduation.

Diplomas are not awarded at the commencement ceremony. Degree conferral signifies official recognition of degree completion and occurs after the commencement ceremony. Upon receipt of grades and verification that outstanding university and program requirements have been met, the degree is awarded. The official transcript will indicate the degree conferral date and a diploma will be awarded.

Students who anticipate graduating are required to complete the *Graduation Application* in Self-Service Carolina. The application is available three times a year, in anticipation of graduation each Spring, Summer or Fall term. The Registrar publishes deadlines for receipt of the form. Upon receipt, the Registrar initiates a graduation “pre-check”.

The “Pre-Check” verifies eligibility to participate in the commencement ceremony.

### Spring Graduates

Students who will be completing all degree requirements in the Spring semester are eligible to participate in USCB’s Spring Commencement only.

### Summer Graduates

Students who will be completing all degree requirements in the Summer semester are eligible to participate in USCB’s Spring Commencement **or** Fall Graduation. Summer graduates should contact [graduation@uscb.edu](mailto:graduation@uscb.edu) to learn more information regarding how to declare which ceremony they’d like to participate.

### Fall Graduates

Students who will be completing all degree requirements in the Fall semester are eligible to participate in USCB’s Fall Graduation only.

Students with extenuating circumstances have the option to appeal to request permission to participate in a particular ceremony, utilizing the USCB *Commencement Participation Appeal* form found at [www.uscb.edu/commencement](http://www.uscb.edu/commencement). Appeals must be filed no later than **March 30<sup>th</sup>** for Spring and **October 31<sup>st</sup>** for Fall. Incomplete or late forms will be rejected.

For questions related to USCB’s Commencement Participation Policy, email [graduation@uscb.edu](mailto:graduation@uscb.edu).

