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| <p><b>Title: Graduation Honors and Recognition</b></p> <p><b>Category: Graduation/Commencement</b></p> | <p><b>Policy No: 7.1</b></p> <p><b>Effective: Fall 2000</b></p> <p><b>Effective with revisions: Spring 2010</b></p> |
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**Policy Statement:** The University of Central Oklahoma grants baccalaureate degrees with honors to graduating students each year (fall, spring, summer) using the following retention GPAs (no mathematical rounding):

- a. Summa Cum Laude - 3.90 or higher.
- b. Magna Cum Laude - 3.80 or higher, but less than 3.90.
- c. Cum Laude 3.70 or higher, but less than 3.80.

To graduate with honors, baccalaureate candidates must have successfully completed at least 45 UCO semester hours.

Candidates eligible for honors recognition will be listed on the registrar's official honors list and recognized during the university's fall and spring commencement ceremonies. Honors candidates will be recognized during the appropriate commencement ceremony.

Summer honor candidates will be eligible to wear honor cords based upon the retention GPA and minimum required hours listed above, and if identified on the registrar's list. Student names and honor designations will be listed in the summer graduation sections of the spring commencement program.

Participation in commencement ceremonies does not guarantee graduation and/or honor designations. Final determinations are made after the student completes all degree requirements.

**Background:**

The original policy written in 2000 moved the honors computation from a percentage to a minimum GPA standard.

Prior to 2010, summer graduates were not eligible to purchase honor cords and were not recognized in the spring commencement ceremony. The number of summer graduates is increasing and many have requested this recognition since UCO does not have a summer ceremony.

Prior to Fall 2009, students earning a second or subsequent baccalaureate degree were not eligible for graduation honors. This restriction was removed in the fall of 2009 and brings this policy into a clearer alignment with the Class Marshal Policy.

**Purpose:** Establish a simplified GPA scale for awarding honors at UCO while maintaining some competitive integrity for the achievement, and recognize summer honor candidates during the spring commencement ceremony.

**Implementation:** Fall Semester 2000

**Impacts:** N.A.

**Related Procedures:** N.A.

**Coordinating Offices:** Enrollment Management, Graduation Support Services

**Point-of-Contact for Academic Affairs:** Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management/Registrar

**Policy approved by the Vice President for Academic Affairs on January 25, 2000.**  
**Policy revision approved by the Vice President for Academic Affairs on January 6, 2003.**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Policy revision approved by the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs on October 23, 2009.**

**Key Words:** Honors, Magna Cum Laude, Summa Cum Laude, Cum Laude  
(Replaces previous editions of Graduation Honors policy.)