COMMENCEMENT POLICY

After the Registrar's Office has received a student's completed application for graduation, an administrator in that office will conduct a graduation audit of the student's progress toward graduation and will notify the student of their anticipated time to completion. Since the College has a single Commencement ceremony each year, students may participate in Commencement ceremonies if they meet the following conditions:

- They are in good academic standing (a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or higher) at the conclusion of the semester prior to Commencement
- They will be within 16 credits of completing the requirements for their baccalaureate degree(s) at the conclusion of Spring Semester
- They have graduated in the current academic year, are currently enrolled, OR for students who are transferring in final coursework, can provide evidence of enrollment in final requirements.

All students must be cleared to attend Commencement by the Graduation Auditor.

Appeals will be decided by the Academic Dean's Office. Appeals may be considered up to fourteen (14) calendar days before the end of the spring semester(see Academic Calendar).

Students are cleared to attend the first Commencement ceremony for which they meet eligibility requirements. Students who have an anticipated graduation date of August or December can opt to attend the following year's ceremony, but the student will need to notify the Graduation Auditor of that decision in writing if cleared to attend the current year's ceremony. Please note that the cost of academic regalia is the responsibility of the student.

Students may not participate in the commencement ceremony more than once for the same degree. Exceptions will only be granted by the President's Cabinet under extraordinary circumstances.

Participation in Commencement does not constitute conferral of a degree. The requirements for a student's degree must be completed before a degree is awarded and a diploma is issued. Final audits to verify degree requirements that have been met are completed in the weeks following the Commencement Ceremony. All diplomas are mailed.

About this Policy

Commencement Policy

Ownership: Registrar's Office, kscregistrar@keene.edu

Last Modified: March 26, 2026 –#KSCRegistrar@keene.edu

Categories:ACADEMIC

For questions regarding this policy, please contact the policy owner.