

Participation in Commencement Policy

1.00 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish the protocol for participation in commencement.

This policy is deemed to be consistent with the University's commitment to the principles, goals, and ideals described in the Cal State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) Founding Vision Statement and to its core values.

2.00 Commencement

Commencement is a celebration of the completion of a degree and/or credential program. Student participation in commencement does not confer the degree nor credential. Cal State University, Monterey Bay shall hold commencement during the month of May.

2.10 Student Participants

A student earning a baccalaureate or graduate degree or teaching credential is eligible to participate in one commencement ceremony when the degree or credential is earned either 1) the fall semester before the ceremony, 2) the spring semester of the ceremony, or 3) the summer semester after the ceremony.

Students whose degrees or credentials may be earned during the fall semester may not participate in commencement the spring before the degree is earned.

Student participation in the commencement ceremony is voluntary.

2.20 Faculty Participants

All Cal State University Monterey Bay faculty are encouraged to participate in commencement ceremonies. Tenured and Tenure-Track faculty are expected to participate in the commencement ceremony of their academic college, as it is a required work day.

2.30 Staff Participants

All Cal State Monterey Bay staff employees are encouraged to participate in commencement ceremonies. Staff who are classified as Management Personnel Plan (MPP) are required to participate in commencement ceremonies, as it is a required work day.

3.00 Continuous Renewal

This policy shall be reviewed ten years from its effective date. This policy may be reviewed before that time as necessary.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Vanya", is positioned above a horizontal line.

President Vanya Quiñones

Effective Date:

Certification of Process

Reviewed by: Policy Facilitation Team, Office of the Registrar, Academic Leadership Team, Academic Senate Executive Committee, Academic Senate, Associated Students, and Enrollment Services and Student Affairs Leadership Team, Administration & Finance, University Development, and Office of the President.

Memorandum from Policy Facilitation Team

To: VP Andrew Lawson

Subject: Policy for final Presidential approval

From: Policy Facilitation Team

Date: April 9, 2025

Policy: Participation in Commencement

The Participation in Commencement Policy has been updated to include and encourage staff and faculty participation in the commencement ceremony. This policy has been fully vetted on campus in accordance with the principles of shared governance.



Andrew Lawson, Provost 
JH

04/10/2025

Date