

# COMMENCEMENT

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## Graduation and Commencement

Although the words are often interchanged, "graduation" and "commencement" have different meanings. Graduation occurs when a student has fulfilled all degree requirements. A student may graduate at one of many points during the academic year, as long as all degree requirements are met. The degree conferral date is the end date of the term or part of the term in which the final requirements are met.

Commencement is a ceremony held to celebrate the achievements of St. Catherine University students. Participation in commencement does not necessarily mean that a student has graduated. A student will not graduate and a degree will not be conferred until all requirements are met, regardless of participation in the commencement ceremony.

## Commencement

Commencement ceremonies are held in May each year. Students may participate in commencement if the student is in good academic standing and has submitted a Graduation Application. **Participation in commencement does not necessarily mean that a student has graduated.** A student will not graduate and a degree will not be conferred until all requirements are met, regardless of participation in the commencement ceremony.

## Diploma

Students receive a diploma after their degree has been posted, provided they have no holds on their record. Diplomas are issued 6-8 weeks following the end of a term.