HONORS AT GRADUATION

The policy below is in effect with the December 2019 graduation. Students graduating in May 2019 or August 2019 should review the policy in the 2018-2019 University Catalog.

Graduation with Latin Honors
Candidates for bachelor's degrees who demonstrate high levels of scholarship throughout their undergraduate years will graduate with Latin honors. To graduate with this recognition at Kent State University, students must achieve one of the following criteria:

- Earn a minimum 60 credit hours at Kent State and earn a minimum 3.500 Kent State GPA; or
- Earn at least 30 but fewer than 60 credit hours at Kent State and earn a minimum 3.500 Kent State GPA and earn a minimum 3.500 transfer GPA.

There are three levels of Latin honors at graduation with a bachelor's degree:

- Cum Laude (Latin for "with honor") — Student has earned a Kent State GPA of 3.500 to 3.699.
- Magna Cum Laude (Latin for "with great honor") — Student has earned a Kent State GPA of 3.700 to 3.899.
- Summa Cum Laude (Latin for "with highest honor") — Student has earned a Kent State GPA of 3.900 to 4.000.

The Kent State GPA for determining Latin honors is calculated from all grades earned in undergraduate courses at Kent State University, including original grades forgiven and/or recalculated under other policies. The transfer GPA is calculated from all grades earned in undergraduate transfer courses that were awarded college credit by Kent State and completed prior to the student's most recent admission to Kent State. The GPA for both is extended to three decimal places and not rounded up.

Because grades in courses taken in the student's final term are not official until after commencement, Latin honors candidates will be recognized at the commencement ceremony based on all their Kent State academic work completed prior to those courses. However, the final term grades will be used in determining honors posted to the transcript and the diploma. Honor citations are inscribed on diplomas as follows: cum laude, magna cum laude and summa cum laude.

Graduation with Distinction
Candidates for associate degrees who demonstrate high levels of scholarship throughout their coursework will graduate "with distinction." To graduate with this recognition, students must achieve the following criteria:

- Earn a minimum 30 credit hours at Kent State University, and
- Earn a minimum 3.500 Kent State University GPA

A Kent State GPA is calculated from all grades earned in undergraduate courses at Kent State University, including original grades forgiven and/or recalculated under other policies. The GPA used to determine the "with distinction" designation is extended to three decimal places and not rounded up.

Because grades in courses taken in the student's graduation term are not official until after commencement, distinction candidates will be recognized at the commencement ceremony based on all their Kent State academic work completed prior to those courses. However, the final term grades will be used in determining the "graduated with distinction" recognition posted to the transcript and the diploma.