



ACADEMIC POLICY

Honors at Graduation

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. Can any student earn Latin honors?

To qualify for Latin honors, students must (1) be awarded a bachelor's degree, (2) earn a minimum of 60 semester credit hours of Kent State courses and (3) meet the minimum criteria for one of the three honors level as listed in the policy. Students who are being awarded a bachelor's degree with fewer than 60 semester credit hours of Kent State courses still may qualify for Latin honors if they have a minimum 3.500 transfer GPA and meet the minimum criteria for one of the three honors level as listed in the policy.

2. Will a student's transfer GPA (if one) always be calculated for eligibility for Latin honors?

No, the transfer GPA will factor into eligibility only for students being awarded a bachelor's degree with fewer than 60 credit hours of Kent State courses.

3. How is a student's transfer GPA calculated for eligibility for Latin honors?

The transfer GPA is calculated from all grades for undergraduate transfer courses awarded college credit at Kent State and completed prior to the student's most recent admission to Kent State.

4. If a student completed graduate courses, will grades in those courses be calculated in the GPA for Latin Honors?

Yes, only if the graduate courses are being applied toward earning the bachelor's degree.

5. Can students graduating with an associate degree earn Latin honors?

Students graduating with an associate degree may be eligible to graduate with distinction. See the policy for the criteria for this award.

6. Can students graduating with a master's or doctoral degree earn Latin honors?

No, Latin honors is open only for students being awarded a bachelor's degree.

7. A student is graduating with a bachelor's degree in August 2019 and will have fewer than 60 Kent State credit hours. Will the student's transfer GPA be used to determine eligibility?

Eligibility using the transfer GPA for students with fewer than 60 Kent State credit hours begins with the December 2019 graduation.

8. A student is graduating with an associate degree in August 2019 and will have fewer than 32 Kent State credit hours. Will the student be eligible for distinction?

Eligibility for distinction with 30 Kent State credit hours begins with the December 2019 graduation.

9. Will the GPA for honors/distinction be recalculated once final grades are issued for the last term?

Yes, once the final grades for the last term before graduation are recorded, the student's GPA is recalculated prior to the awarding of the degree.

10. Will a student's GPA of 3.496 be rounded up to receive honors/distinction?

No, per the policy for honors/distinction, the GPA is extended to three decimal places and not rounded up.

- 11. If a student received Kent State credit for an exam (e.g., AP, CLEP) or for specific professional credential, will those credit hours count in the credit-hour requirement for honors/distinction?**
No, the minimum credit-hour requirement is based solely on coursework taken for a grade at Kent State University.
- 12. Are S (satisfactory) and X (Pass) grades included toward the minimum credit hours of Kent State coursework required for Latin honors/distinction?**
Although the S and X grades do not count in the student's GPA, they do count in earned hours; therefore, yes, they are included in the minimum credit hours requirement.
- 13. Will Kent State credit hours earned by students in high school (through College Credit Plus) be included in the minimum credit hours of Kent State coursework required for Latin honors/distinction?**
Yes, credit hours for all earned Kent State courses count toward the minimum credit-hour requirement.
- 14. Is the overall GPA listed on the student's GPS degree audit or on the transcript the one used to determine honors/distinction?**
The GPA to determine honors/distinction includes all grades removed under the course repeat and academic forgiveness policies. Therefore, the GPA for honors/distinction may not be the same GPA displayed on the student's audit and transcript if the student repeated a course or applied for academic forgiveness.
- 15. For bachelor's degree students with fewer than 60 credit hours, is the GPA listed on the student's transfer transcript the one used to determine eligibility for honors?**
The transfer GPA to determine eligibility for honors includes only the courses for which Kent State awarded college credit. Therefore, the transfer GPA for eligibility may not be the same GPA displayed on the student's transfer transcript.
- 16. Where can students see their total earned Kent State credit hours and eligibility for honors/distinction?**
Students can log into FlashLine and access their Kent State Academic Transcript and their Latin Honors GPA on the Student and Financial Aid tab, Student Records menu.
- 17. How do students find out if they earned honors/distinction?**
Graduates who are receiving either Latin honors (for bachelor's) or distinction (for associate) will receive their confirmation via an e-mail to their kent.edu address from the Office of the University Registrar.
- 18. Will students with honors be recognized at commencement?**
Candidates for honors will be distinguished at the commencement ceremony and listed in the program book. They are considered 'candidates' at that time because the honors recognition will be based on their academic work completed up to the semester prior to graduation (this is due to commencement occurring before grades in the final semester are made official).
- 19. How do students get honors cords for commencement?**
Graduates who are receiving Latin honors will receive instructions on obtaining the honors cords via an e-mail to their kent.edu address from the Office of the University Registrar. For further information, contact the One Stop for Student Services via [e-mail](#) or at 330-672-6000, or click on the Contact Us button on the [website](#).
- 20. Where will the honors/distinction be noted?**
Citation of Latin honors or distinction are inscribed on the student's diploma and noted on both the student's official and unofficial transcripts with the degree information.