SUMMER 2021 VIRTUAL COMMENCEMENT POLICIES

The following policies will be in place for Walden’s summer 2021 commencement and college ceremonies.

Online Commencement Program

Only the names of graduates who have received confirmation of their degree conferral between December 14, 2020 and June 14, 2021 will appear in the online version of the commencement program. The commencement book will be finalized after the ceremony. To be excluded from the commencement program, please send an e-mail to commencement@mail.waldenu.edu before June 14, 2021.

Cancellations and Fees

There is no fee associated with the summer commencement registration. Graduates may cancel their registration at any time prior to June 14, 2021. If a graduate chooses to cancel after this date, their name and photo will still appear in the virtual college ceremony.

Individual Recognition During the Virtual Ceremony

All registered graduates will have their names called, alongside an optional photo, during their college ceremony. In order to be individually recognized during the college ceremonies, graduates must register to attend commencement by June 14. Submitting a photo to be featured during this portion of the ceremony is optional. Graduates who would like to have their photo included when their name is read must submit their photo by June 22, 2021. No photo submissions will be accepted after this date.

Commencement Name Reading

All registered graduates will have their names called, alongside an optional photo, during their college ceremony. During the registration process, graduates will be asked to include their preferred name to be read for the individual recognition portion of the college ceremony. In addition to providing their preferred name to be called, graduates must also provide a phonetic spelling of the name so that it may be pronounced correctly.

Academic titles will only be read alongside a name if it corresponds to the degree for which the graduate is being recognized with the respective degree program. For example, if John Smith is being recognized for his master’s degree during this ceremony, but holds a separate doctoral degree, his doctoral title will not be read. If he is being recognized for his doctoral degree, his doctoral title will be read.
Future Ceremony Attendance
All graduates who choose to register to attend this virtual commencement will be invited to attend a future in-person commencement weekend that best aligns with their schedule. In order to receive information and updates on future ceremonies, graduates must indicate in their invitation which future ceremony they want to attend. Additionally, graduates can complete this future ceremony survey to indicate which future in-person ceremony they are interested in attending.

Embedded Degrees
Graduates who have earned an embedded graduate credential within their doctoral-level degree are only eligible to participate in commencement for their doctoral-level degree. Embedded graduate credentials will not be recognized during the commencement ceremony.

Latin Honors
Walden awards Latin honors (cum laude, magna cum laude, and summa cum laude) and the Presidential Commendation for Academic Achievement (cumulative GPA of 4.0) at the bachelor’s level only. Latin honors cords and Presidential medals will be mailed to all registered graduates who are eligible to receive Latin honors or a Presidential medal.

Honors Societies
Graduates are responsible for identifying and contacting their respective honors societies for any event information, honor cords/commencement attire, or membership status. The commencement team is not responsible for any communications regarding activities outside of the commencement ceremony and Walden hosted graduate events.

Regalia
Graduates are not required to purchase regalia for the virtual commencement ceremonies or for their photo to be included in the ceremony. However, if graduates wish to purchase regalia to have at home or wear during the virtual ceremonies, they can order through our regalia partner, Herff Jones.

Special Consideration Registrants
Special Consideration registrants will be subject to the following:
1. Only the names of graduates who have received confirmation of their degree conferral between December 14, 2020 and June 14, 2021 will appear in the online commencement program.
2. Special consideration registrants will receive a mailed graduate box and/or Latin honors cords (if eligible), however delivery will not be guaranteed before the event.

**Late Registrants**

Late Registrants will be subject to the following:

1. Only the names of graduates who have received confirmation of their degree conferral between December 14, 2020 and June 14, 2021 will appear in the online commencement program.

2. Late registrants will not receive a mailed graduate box or Latin honors cords (if eligible).

3. Late registrants will not have their photo included or name read during the graduate recognition portion of the virtual college ceremony.