



Policy AC018: Academic Honors at Graduation

Recommended for Approval by:

A blue ink signature of Dr. Scott E. Miller.

Dr. Scott E. Miller, VP for Academic Affairs and Provost,
Pennsylvania Western University

Approved by:

A black ink signature of Dr. Dale-Elizabeth Pehrsson.

Dr. Dale-Elizabeth Pehrsson, President,
Pennsylvania Western University

Effective Date: 07/01/2022

A. Intent

To establish criteria to award honors recognition at the time of undergraduate graduation.

B. Definition(s)

Not Applicable.

C. Policy

Latin honors are awarded at graduation to baccalaureate degree-seeking students who have attempted and earned at least 30 credits at Pennsylvania Western University and achieved the required cumulative GPA shown below.

Latin Honors	GPA
Cum Laude	3.40 - 3.59
Magna Cum Laude	3.60 - 3.79
Summa Cum Laude	3.80 - 4.00

The minimum 30 hours of attempted and earned credits will include those registered in the student's final semester or term. Latin honors recognized at the time of the commencement ceremony are determined by the cumulative GPA earned at the end of the previous semester or term; actual Latin honors that will appear on the student's transcript at the time of degree conferral will be based on the cumulative GPA at graduation.

Students graduating with an associate degree will graduate “with Honors” if they earn at least 15 credits from PennWest and achieve a cumulative GPA of at least 3.40.

Credits, grades, and quality points earned as part of a previously completed associate or first degree are not used to calculate honors at graduation. However, for students who earn an associate degree from PennWest and continue to a baccalaureate degree, credits earned toward the associate degree will be counted in meeting the 45-credit graduation residency requirement and for the calculation of the cumulative GPA for honors at graduation.

Honors are not awarded at the completion of graduate degree programs.

D. Procedure(s)

Not Applicable.

E. Related policies

Dean’s List Policy (AC017)

Grading Policy (AC019)

Graduation Requirements Policy (AC028)

Graduation Residency Requirements Policy (AC033)

Transcript and Diploma Policy (AC041)

F. Contact Information

For additional information, please contact the Office of the Registrar.

G. Policy Review Schedule

All policies will be reviewed every two years or on an as needed basis if a change in BOG, PASSHE or Pennsylvania law would create the need for an immediate change.