

1. COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

- 1.01 Commencement exercises are held three times each academic year: at the conclusion of each fall and spring semester and at the close of the second summer session.
- 1.02 The University Commencement Committee is appointed by the Provost and Sr. Vice President for Academic Affairs and has primary responsibility for the planning and implementation of each commencement exercise.

2. FACULTY PARTICIPATION IN COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

- 2.01 Participation in commencement exercises is strongly encouraged for tenure-track and tenured members of the University faculty.
 - a. All tenure-track and tenured members of the University faculty are encouraged to participate in at least one of the commencement exercises each calendar year.
 - b. Each department is encouraged to establish a rotation of its faculty to represent the department at commencements.
 - c. Each department is required to have representation at each of their college's commencements.
- 2.02 Non-tenure track faculty also are encouraged to participate in commencement exercises.
- 2.03 Tenured and tenure-track faculty who teach only online courses are not expected to participate in commencement exercises for that semester^(b).
- 2.04 Faculty not under contract over summer are not expected to attend summer commencement.
- 2.05 Participating faculty shall wear appropriate academic regalia.

3. FACULTY ABSENCE FROM COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

If a member of the tenured/tenure-track faculty who is scheduled to attend a commencement exercise cannot attend, that faculty member shall notify in writing the department chair or library director, as appropriate.

APPROVED: <signed>
Alisa White, Ph.D., President

DATE: 3/31/2025

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

This academic policy statement (APS) has been approved by the reviewer(s) listed below and represents SHSU's Division of Academic Affairs' policy from the date of this document until superseded.

Original: December 21, 1979
Reviewer(s): Academic Affairs Council

Review Cycle: Five years*
Review Date: Fall 2026

Approved: <signed>
Michael T. Stephenson, Ph.D.,
Provost and Sr. Vice President
for Academic Affairs

Date: 3/28/2025

*Effective January 2018, Academic Policy Statements will be reviewed on a rotating 5-year schedule. To transition to a distributed review load, some policies may be reviewed prior to the 5-year timeframe, with subsequent reviews transitioning to the 5-year schedule.