

13.99.99.C0.02 Postponing Participation in the Commencement Ceremony



Approved: May 2, 2016

Revised: May 2, 2016

Next Scheduled Review: May 2, 2021

Procedure Statement

This procedure establishes a process for qualified students delaying their participation in the official graduation ceremony by one term.

Reason for Procedure

In an effort to accommodate students who for reasons of health or inviting a family member outside of the U.S. to the graduation ceremony, the following protocol is established as criteria for approving delayed participation in the graduation ceremony in which the student officially completes their academic program.

Procedures and Responsibilities

Students who have successfully completed the requirements for their chosen academic program and qualify to graduate may be able to defer participating in the commencement ceremony under certain conditions. These students must follow this process.

1. The student may petition the Office of the University Registrar for either reasons related to:
 - a. Medical reason (appropriate medical documentation from physician must accompany petition), or
 - b. Reason of inviting a family member who is outside of the U.S. and must seek a VISA to travel and attend commencement ceremony.
2. The student's actual degree completion date that appears on their transcript and diploma will be for the term the degree requirements are completed, not when the student walks in the commencement ceremony.
3. The student's name will appear in the program for the term that he or she completes degree requirements and not in the program when the student participates in the commencement ceremony.

4. The student must have applied for graduation in the term in which he or she will complete their degree requirements.
5. Only one term deferral will be granted.
6. Petitions to defer your graduation walk in the ceremony will be accepted up until the last day to apply for graduation, as posted in the academic calendar, for each respective term. Requests after that date will not be accepted.
7. If approved, the student must email the University Registrar at registrar@tamucc.edu 1 month prior to the commencement ceremony they plan to participate in to indicate they are walking in the ceremony and request the details for the ceremony.
8. For international students who have returned to their home countries after their degree requirements are completed but prior to participating in the commencement ceremony, they will need to contact the Office of International Education regarding proper visa requirements in order to return for participation in the graduation ceremony. The Office of International Education will assist international students in attaining the correct visa for re-entry to the United States.

Related Statutes, Policies or Requirements

There are no related statutes, policies, or requirements currently in place.

Contact Office

Contact for interpretation and clarification: Office of the University Registrar
(361) 825-2624