

# GRADUATION

## Degree Application

Students who believe they are ready to receive their degree from Wentworth Institute of Technology and have a grade point average of 2.0 or higher are required to complete a formal degree application (<https://wit.edu/ssc/forms/>). (See Academic Calendar (<https://catalog.wit.edu/academic-calendar/>) for specific dates.) Degree applications will not be accepted from students with a grade point average below 2.0. Applications for graduation are submitted via LeopardWeb and are required to ensure the Registrar has received all student credentials. Degrees conferred reflect the graduation that follows the student's successful completion of all degree requirements; degrees are conferred in April, August, and December.

## Graduation Criteria

Curriculum leading to bachelors degree are so planned that a student carrying a minimum of 17 credit hours each semester will ordinarily be able to complete the requirements for graduation in four years (48 months, or 10 semesters, which include two semesters of co-op). Degrees will be awarded to candidates who have fulfilled the following:

- A minimum of 20 distributed general education credits for degree-seeking students in the School of Engineering and the School of Computing and Data Science and 28 credits for degree seeking students in the School of Architecture and Design, the School of Management and the School of Sciences and Humanities, the requirements of the declared major, and two semesters of required co-op.
- Satisfactory completion of all requirements for a bachelors degree must be under a catalog in effect within two years of the date of graduation. The catalog used, however, may be no earlier than the catalog in effect at the time of matriculation or in the case of a change of major, no earlier than the catalog in effect when the major was formally declared.
- A minimum of 50% of the total semester credit hours of any bachelors degree program must be completed at Wentworth Institute of Technology.
- A minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher and any other academic requirements of the students major as outlined by the academic unit.
- A minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher is required for an associate degree.
- Students will not receive their diplomas or transcripts until all financial obligations to the University have been met.
- Conferral of a degree occurs when the registrar finalizes the student's academic record and confirms that all requirements have been satisfied, which includes "IC" grades. Students who complete remaining requirements outside of the University; the degree date will be determined based upon the date the official documents are received by the registrar, not the date the course was completed. The degree date will be in accordance with the timeline for conferral of degree in April, August or December.
- Participation in the Commencement ceremony does not constitute conferral of the degree. Similarly, inclusion of a student's name in such publications as the Commencement program does not confirm eligibility for the degree.

## Latin Honors

Latin honors accompanying undergraduate degrees are awarded in three grades based on the final cumulative grade point average. Students must meet the University Residency requirement to be eligible for Latin honors.

- Summa cum laude, with highest honors, is awarded to students with a 3.90 cumulative GPA or higher.
- Magna cum laude, with high honors, is awarded to students with a 3.75 to 3.89 cumulative GPA.
- Cum laude, with honors, is awarded to students with a 3.50 to 3.74 cumulative GPA.

The Commencement program is printed prior to grades being submitted for the student's final semester, therefore the Registrar's Office must print honors designation based upon the students last completed semester at the time of publication. The student diploma and finalized transcript will reflect the official honors designation based upon the student's final grade point average.

## Participation in Commencement

Commencement ceremonies occur in April and August. Students in good academic standing may participate in Commencement and are subject to the following conditions:

- Students will have satisfied all graduation requirements by Commencement, which includes in-progress courses and
- at least a 2.0 cumulative grade point average in the semester before graduation.

## Walk-on Policy

Students who have not satisfied all requirements may participate in the Commencement ceremony by submitting a Petition to Walk at Commencement form (<http://www.wit.edu/ssc/forms/>) to the Associate Director of Operations and Degree Certification at [registrar@wit.edu](mailto:registrar@wit.edu) if they have met the following criteria and are preregistered for the remaining requirements in the upcoming semester:

- Must have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 **and** must meet one of the following criteria:
- No more than eight remaining credits,
- One semester of required cooperative education,
- Four credits maximum and one required co-op semester,
- Exceptions that fall beyond those listed require approval of the provost. If approval is granted, the information will be sent to the Associate Director of Operations and Degree Certification and entered the student's permanent record.

Students approved under the walk-on policy will not appear in the Commencement program and must resubmit a new graduation application when all outstanding degree requirements have been met. Failure to do so may delay the awarding of a degree.

Students who have successfully completed all requirements for the degree before a specific graduation date are eligible to receive the degree as of that date. A diploma will not be awarded before all work is completed or before the date of graduation. Upon degree conferral the academic record is sealed; grade changes and the addition of a minor or certificate are not permitted after official award date of an undergraduate degree. Students who do not successfully complete their degree requirements because of their final grades and who are not registered for the next semester will be officially withdrawn from the

University. The effective date of the withdrawal will be reported as the final day of classes for the last semester in attendance.