**Policy Revision**

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| **Policy Title** | Undergraduate Dean’s List, Honors & Awards |
| **Policy URL** | <https://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/courses-credit/grading/distinction-honors-awards>  |
| **Suggested updates** | * Undergraduate Dean’s List, Honors & Awards
	+ Expand applicability of dean’s list and dean’s list with distinction.
		- Add half-time categories requiring 6 units; GPA requirements remain unchanged.
		- Update full-time categories to require 12 units instead of 15; GPA requirements remain unchanged.
		- Honorable Mention category is removed.
		- Reformat eligibility information into tables.
	+ Remove year-based Academic Distinction.
	+ Rename policy headings for clarity.
		- Update Graduation with Academic Distinction to “Bachelor’s Degree Latin Honors”.
		- Update policy title to “*Undergraduate* Dean’s List, Honors & Awards”.
		- Update the “University Academic Honors” section to “University Academic Recognition”.
		- Break single section, “Other Awards & Honors” into 2 sections: “Commencement Awards & Recognition” and “Honor Societies”.
* Grades & the Grading System
	+ Update reference to “Dean’s List, Academic Distinction, Honors and Awards” with “Undergraduate Dean’s List, Honors & Awards”.
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| **Rationale for updates** | * Undergraduate Dean’s List, Honors & Awards
	+ Adding a half-time category for the dean’s list recognizes the efforts and progress of the growing half-time student population.
	+ Reducing the full-time dean’s list to 12 credits aligns with the University’s full-time status policy. As 12 credits is currently the threshold for honorable mention, this category would no longer be needed.
	+ Academic Distinction is the annual equivalent of the term-based dean’s list, with significant overlap among the students that receive both forms of recognition. Focusing on term-based achievement will reduce complexity for students and the institution.
	+ Updating the policy headings will add clarity:
		- The new policy title reflects the removal of academic distinction and clarifies that the policy only applies to undergraduate students.
		- “Bachelor’s Degree Latin Honors” is a straightforward term recognized consistently across institutions, whereas Graduation with Academic Distinction is less apparent.
		- Updating to “University Academic Recognition” ensures clearer distinction between academic recognitions and the honors program.
		- Separating Commencement Awards & Recognition from Honor Societies clarifies the difference between one-time awards (granted at the end of a student’s career) and membership in honor societies (which may be ongoing throughout a student’s career).
* Grades & the Grading System
	+ All reference in policies to academic distinction should be removed to avoid confusion.
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| **Contact Person for Questions** | Abbie Sorg, Caleb Simmons |
| **Responsible Unit** | Office of the Registrar | **URL** | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **Career Applicability** | [x]  Undergraduate [ ]  Graduate [ ]  Law [ ]  Medicine [ ]  Pharmacy [ ]  Veterinary Medicine |
| **Approvals Granted** *(for council use only)* | UGC Policies Subcommittee | Scheduled: 11/14/2023, 12/12/2024, 2/27/2024 | Status: |
| Undergraduate Council | Scheduled: | Status: |
| Graduate Council | Scheduled:  | Status: |
| Undergraduate CAAC | Scheduled:  | Status: |
| Graduate CAAC | Scheduled: | Status: |
| Faculty Senate Executive Committee | Scheduled:  | Status: |
| Faculty Senate | Scheduled: | Status: |

**Policy Revision Side by Side**

Additions in Green – Deletions in ~~Yellow~~

| Existing Policy | Proposed Edit |
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| **University Academic ~~Honors~~**Honors are bestowed as recognition of outstanding academic achievement ~~and as a means to further encourage sound scholarship. They are awarded~~ to every undergraduate student attaining the required proficiency. ~~For some awards, students also receive certificates.~~ ~~The University of Arizona supports academic achievement and is pleased to recognize and reward undergraduate students whose performance merits special attention. For more information see the~~[**~~Honors College~~**](http://directory.arizona.edu/colleges/honors-college)~~section~~.**Dean's List**~~Three categories of~~ Dean's List ~~are~~ awarded every ~~semester~~ based on units completed for credit and letter[**grade**](https://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/courses-credit/grading/grading-system) (exclud~~ing all~~ Pass/Fail [P/F] ~~and~~ Superior/Pass [S/P] grades). ~~Also, all~~ Incomplete (I) grades ~~must be made up before the honor is bestowed~~.1. ~~Dean's List with Distinction -- is based on 15 units and a 4.000 grade-point-average.~~
2. ~~Dean's List -- is based on 15 units and a grade-point average of 3.500-3.999.~~
3. ~~Honorable Mention -- is based on 12 units of 3.500 and above grade-point-average.~~

Students ~~awarded these academic honors~~ are recognized by their primary [**college**](http://www.arizona.edu/topics/colleges) i.e. the college of their first major or their first degree program), either at the Honors Convocation the following fall or through other means determined by the college. ~~This~~ recognition ~~becomes~~ part of the official record and appears on the transcript.**Academic Distinction**~~Two categories of Distinction are awarded annually based on units completed for credit and letter~~[**~~grade~~**](https://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/courses-credit/grading/grading-system)~~(excluding all Pass/Fail [P/F] and Superior/Pass [S/P] grades). Also, all Incomplete (I) grades must be made up before the honor is bestowed. Distinction~~ is based on all University credit completed in the prior year, beginning with Summer ~~Pre-session and inclusive of other Summer Sessions, Fall, Winter,~~ and Spring ~~terms,~~ and Dynamically Dated courses. ~~During each regular semester (i.e. Fall and Spring), students must complete a minimum of 12 graded units.~~1. Highest Academic Distinction -- ~~is based on~~ 30 ~~units and a~~ 4.000 ~~grade-point-average.~~
2. Academic Distinction ~~-- is based on~~ 30 ~~units and a grade-point-average of~~ 3.500-3.999.

~~Students awarded these academic honors are recognized at the Honors Convocation of their primary~~[**~~college~~**](http://www.arizona.edu/topics/colleges)~~(i.e. the college of their first major or their first degree program) the following Fall. Students awarded either category of Distinction will receive a certificate from their primary college.~~**~~Graduation with Academic Distinction~~**Three categories are awarded for superior scholarship in work leading to the bachelor's degree. This honor, based upon ~~graduation~~ grade-point-average, ~~becomes~~ part of the official record, is awarded upon ~~graduation~~ and appears on the [**transcript**](http://www.registrar.arizona.edu/transcripts?audience=students&cat1=22&cat2=192) and diploma of the recipient.1. Summa Cum Laude -- ~~is awarded to candidates whose grade-point-average is~~ 3.900 ~~or higher.~~
2. Magna Cum Laude ~~-- is awarded to candidates whose grade-point-average is~~ 3.700-3.899.
3. Cum Laude -- ~~is awarded to candidates whose grade-point-average is~~ 3.5000-3.699.

To be eligible for ~~distinction~~ at graduation, bachelor's degree candidates must have completed at least 45 graded units with letter grades that carry the required grade-point-average. ~~Also, in computing the above grade-point-averages, only~~[**~~University Credit~~**](https://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/courses-credit/credit/credit-definitions)~~is considered. This policy applies to all students graduating in December 1998 or later.~~**Graduation with Honors**Graduation with Honors is bestowed on students who have completed all requirements of the University-wide Honors Program. This academic recognition ~~becomes~~ part of the official record and is noted on the transcript and diploma of the recipient. Honors students also wear a special cord and medallion at graduation.**~~Other~~ Awards and ~~Honors~~**Other awards and honors in recognition of outstanding academic achievement are bestowed through ~~the various~~ college~~s~~ ~~and departments. Also,~~ colleges and departments offer participation in discipline-based honor societies and associations. Interested students should contact departmental and college academic advisors. | **University Academic Recognition**Recognition of outstanding academic achievement is granted to every undergraduate student attaining the required proficiency. **Dean's List** Dean’s List recognition is awarded every term, based on units completed for credit and letter grade, which excludes courses with the following grade types:* Superior (S), Pass (P), or Fail (F) grades
* Incomplete (I) grades that have not yet been completed

Dean’s List recognition is part of the official record and appears on the [**transcript**](http://www.registrar.arizona.edu/transcripts?audience=students&cat1=22&cat2=192).

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| **CATEGORY** | **GPA REQUIREMENT** | **MINIMUM CREDIT REQUIREMENT** |
|  |  | Half-Time Students | Full-Time Students |
| Dean’s List with Distinction | 4.000 | 6 | 12 |
| Dean’s List | 3.500-3.999 | 6 | 12 |

**Bachelor’s Degree Latin Honors**Three categories are awarded for superior scholarship in work leading to the bachelor's degree. This honor, based upon degree conferral grade-point-average, is part of the official record, is awarded upon degree conferral and appears on the [**transcript**](http://www.registrar.arizona.edu/transcripts?audience=students&cat1=22&cat2=192) and diploma of the recipient.

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| **LATIN HONORS** | **GPA REQUIREMENT** |
| Summa Cum Laude | 3.900-4.000 |
| Magna Cum Laude | 3.700-3.899 |
| Cum Laude | 3.500-3.699 |

To be eligible for Latin Honors at graduation, bachelor's degree candidates must have completed at least 45 graded units of [**University Credit**](https://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/courses-credit/credit/credit-definitions) with letter grades that carry the required grade-point-average. **Graduation with Honors**Graduation with Honors is bestowed on students who have completed all requirements of the University-wide [Honors Program](https://frankehonors.arizona.edu/). This academic recognition is part of the official record and is noted on the [**transcript**](http://www.registrar.arizona.edu/transcripts?audience=students&cat1=22&cat2=192)and diploma of the recipient. Honors students also wear a special cord and medallion at graduation bestowed by the [W. A. Franke Honors College](https://frankehonors.arizona.edu/). **Commencement Awards and Recognition**Other awards and honors in recognition of outstanding academic achievement, such as honor cords, are bestowed through a student’s college. **Honor Societies** Colleges and departments offer participation in discipline-based honor societies and associations. Interested students should contact departmental and college academic advisors. |