

Hanover College Policy on Commencement Attire

Commencement is a formal occasion and graduates are required to wear appropriate academic regalia as purchased from the Bookstore, i.e., cap and gown, unless approved in advance by the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. Graduates are expected to wear proper attire with the cap and gown, e.g., skirts or dresses, dark dress pants/slacks, dark socks, and shoes. Mortar boards may not be decorated. The wearing of cords, stoles, medallions, and pins (“regalia”) during any College commencement ceremony is reserved for the following:

- Cords issued by the College recognizing Latin honors
- Cords or stoles from national honor societies with a College affiliation
- Cords or stoles provided by Hanover College registered student organizations, including Greek fraternities and sororities, academic clubs, leadership programs, and other affiliations
- Regalia officially recognized for the United States Military and Veterans Stoles representing an international or cultural affiliation
- Other regalia approved by the College

Hanover College student organizations and other College-approved programs or organizations wishing to provide student members or participants with organization or program recognition regalia adornment to be worn at commencement must receive prior approval from the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. Individual students wishing to wear adornments not already approved must receive prior approval, as well. The Office of Academic Affairs will maintain a list of all pre-approved regalia adornments including the requesting person or organization, description, and meaning of the adornment. Approval is subject to these restrictions:

- Gold and silver cords are reserved for the designation of academic honors: cum laude (silver), magna cum laude (silver and gold), summa cum laude (double gold).
- Requests for new cords, stoles or other regalia adornments must be obtained at least sixty days prior to the ceremony date via the request form available from the Office of Academic Affairs.
- Stoles may not be wider than 5”.
- Regalia adornments may not display any derogatory or offensive language, nor should they draw undue attention to an individual person or group that would detract from the occasion.
- No medallions other than those awarded to the Crowe and Long award recipients may be worn during commencement ceremonies.

The following organizations have prior approval from the Provost for regalia adornment.

Alpha Delta Pi	First Generation Graduates	Phi Delta Theta
Alpha Lambda Delta	Hanover College Choirs	Phi Gamma Delta
Benjamin Templeton Scholars	HC Education Association	Phi Mu
Black Student Union	Kappa Alpha Theta	Phi Sigma Iota
Chi Omega	Lambda Chi Alpha	Sigma Chi
College Legacy Program	Latino Student Union	US Military
Delta Phi Alpha	Mortar Board	

[Registered Student Organization Regalia Request Form](#)

[Individual Commencement Regalia Request Form](#)