



DEGREE CONFERRAL AND GRADUATION FEE

The following is a summary of changes to the official degree conferral dates and implementation of the Graduation Fee.

Degree Conferral:

Effective with Spring 18, there will be one degree conferral date per trimester. All diplomas issued in a specific trimester will show the trimester conferral date.

Transcripts will reflect the degree conferral date.

Students who need verification of completion of all requirements prior to the official degree conferral date may contact the Registrar for a verification letter.

The following dates are confirmed for 2018 and 2019:

April 23, August 13, and December 19, 2018

April 22, August 12, and December 17, 2019

Graduation Fee:

Candidates for all MUIH credentials including doctoral and master's degrees and certificates will be assessed one Graduation Fee of \$75 for all credentials earned within a given trimester.

Students will be charged the Graduation Fee in the trimester in which the credential(s) is/are earned.

Commencement vs. Graduation

There are important differences between commencement and graduation; we want you to be comfortable with these common university terms.

Commencement refers to the ceremony, officiated by the provost of the university, where you share the excitement and importance of your academic accomplishments with peers, family, and friends. It is also a time for the university, president, deans, program directors, faculty, and staff to pay special tribute to you for the outstanding efforts you have shown in earning your degree. The university holds one ceremony, traditionally in June, to celebrate the graduates for the three prior conferrals. There is no registration fee to attend commencement; however, graduates will need to secure academic regalia, and any charges affiliated with traveling to the ceremony location.

Graduation, on the other hand, is the process of submitting an online graduation application, completing all academic requirements for your degree, and settling all financial obligations, among a few other audits/assessments. The administrative process of degree conferral will indicate your official date of graduation. Conferral date is defined as the date on which your degree is officially awarded. There are three official conferral (degree posting) dates per year. Candidates for all MUIH credentials including doctoral and master's degrees and certificates will be assessed one nonrefundable fee of \$75 for all credentials earned within a given trimester. Students will be charged the Graduation Fee in the trimester in which the credential(s) is/are earned. The fee covers administrative costs associated with completing the graduation review, as well as printing and shipping your diploma. Also note, you will receive your diploma whether you attend commencement or not. Diplomas will be mailed six to eight weeks following the official university degree conferral date (i.e., the date appearing on your diploma) and once the Office of the Registrar has completed the official academic clearance review.

There are important instructions and deadlines that you will need to meet as you prepare to complete your program, so make sure you review the graduation process **before you begin your last course**. If you have any questions regarding the process, please contact your academic advisor or the Office of the Registrar.

If you plan to participate in Commencement in accordance with our Walkthrough policy, please note that a walkthrough is not considered a degree candidate, and will not receive a diploma, nor conferred degree transcript, until all program requirements and any other outstanding issues have been settled. Furthermore, any and all holds/debts with the University must be settled before students are officially provided the aforementioned documentation of completion.