

2023 Commencement Participation

Policy. Pitzer College has one graduation ceremony each year; the 2023 Commencement Ceremony will take place Saturday, May 13, 2023, after the end of final examinations. Commencement is a degree-granting ceremony in which diplomas are conferred and in which only those students who have fully completed the College's graduation requirements since the last ceremony are allowed to participate. Diplomas are only printed once per year in May and are issued during the commencement ceremony (or mailed for those not able to attend). Students can participate in only one Pitzer College commencement ceremony. The current policy can be found [here](#).

2023 Exception. The Faculty Executive Committee (FEC) has approved a participation exception for the 2023 ceremony. Specifically, students who will be within *one* credit of fully completing all College and major(s) graduation requirements by the end of spring semester 2023, as determined by the Registrar's Office, will be allowed to participate in commencement. All students who wish to participate in commencement 2023 must complete the [Intent to Participate form](#) by April 3, 2023. Participation in commencement is not evidence of degree completion; degrees are conferred only after students successfully complete all requirements.

Petitions. Students can petition to participate in commencement according to the current Pitzer College [commencement policy](#). FEC has deliberated and decided that, in line with the approved policy, it will only consider petitions from students who are making progress toward fully completing all College and major(s) graduation requirements by the end of spring semester 2023 and for whom extraordinary and unforeseen circumstances *during the current semester* prevent them from completing their degree. Students whose participation petitions are approved will have their degrees conferred at a later date and only after they have fully completed all College requirements.

FEC will consider submitted student petitions for participation in the 2023 Commencement Ceremony based on all of the following, which should be addressed in submitted petitions:

1. **Extraordinary and Unforeseen Circumstances:** Students must be making progress toward fully completing all College and major(s) graduation requirements by the end of the Spring semester 2023. The extraordinary and unforeseen circumstances that disrupt this progress must be described and should have occurred in the current semester.
2. **Plan for Completing Degree Requirements.** The petition must describe the student's plan for completing their degree requirements in a timely manner, such as how and when they expect to finish requirements or successfully resolve Incomplete grades that are received.
3. **Support of the Academic Advisor(s) and Office of Student Affairs.** The student's Academic Advisor(s), must be able to substantiate the student's petition and their capacity to complete the degree requirements as planned. The Office of Student Affairs also will be consulted about remaining requirements, student plans, and relevant supports for degree completion.

