

## Definitions

Please refer to the University's Glossary of Terms for policies and procedures.

### 1. Purpose of procedures

1.1 These procedures provide details on the selection criteria and basis for the awarding of University Medals for Academic Excellence, Medals for Academic Excellence and University Commendations for Academic Excellence, which recognise and formally acknowledge those graduates who have demonstrated the highest academic levels of achievement in their studies.

1.2 These medals and commendations are awarded to students graduating from an undergraduate award program (other than an End-on Bachelor Honours Degree) or a postgraduate coursework award program. Graduates of End-on Bachelor Honours Degrees and Higher Degrees by Research are not eligible for these awards.

### 2. GPA Eligibility Criteria

2.1 Medals and Commendations are awarded in recognition of exceptional academic excellence and are normally based on the graduating student's final Program Grade Point Average (GPA), as calculated in accordance with the Grades and Grade Point Average (GPA) – Academic Policy. Table 1 sets out the range of GPA eligibility criteria.

Table 1. GPA Eligibility Criteria for Award of Medals and Commendations

| AWARD TYPE   | PROGRAM GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA) | PROGRAM LEVEL/TYPE      |
|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| University Medal for Academic Excellence                       | 6.80 or more                      | Undergraduate           |
| Medal for Academic Excellence                                  | 6.60 to 6.79                      | Undergraduate           |
| University Commendation for Academic Excellence                | 6.0 or better                     | Undergraduate           |
| University Commendation for Academic Excellence (Postgraduate) | 6.6 or better                     | Postgraduate Coursework |

\* Students who qualify for a Medal do not receive a University Commendation as well.

2.2 Students graduating from a program, including a double degree, will be considered for only one medal or commendation, whichever is the highest award for which they are eligible.

### 3. Eligibility Criteria regarding quantum of study at USC

3.1 To be eligible for consideration for a University Medal for Academic Excellence or a Medal for Academic Excellence, undergraduate students must have undertaken at least 192 units of study at this University. Students who do not meet these criteria will be considered for a University Commendation for Academic Excellence.

3.2 Undergraduate students who are eligible for consideration for a University Commendation based on their final Program GPA, but who have completed less than 192 units of study at USC, may have their performance in any previous studies awarded as credit taken into account. Refer to section 4.

3.3 To be eligible for consideration for a University Commendation for Academic Excellence (Postgraduate), postgraduate students must have undertaken at least 96 points of study USC.

### 4. Eligibility of Credit Transfer

4.1 Undergraduate students who are eligible for consideration for a University Commendation based on their Program GPA, but who have completed less than 192 units of study at USC, will have their overall Grade Point Average (GPA) recalculated taking into account any credit awarded for previous studies.

4.2 If any credit transfer granted for previous studies cannot, for whatever reason, be equated to a USC standard grade, or credit has been awarded on the basis of Recommended Prior Learning, such that it is not possible to add up to 192 units, then a commendation will not be awarded.

#### APPROVAL AUTHORITY

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)

#### RESPONSIBLE OFFICER

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)

#### DESIGNATED OFFICER

Director, Student Services and Engagement

#### FIRST APPROVED

6 December 2016

#### LAST AMENDED

25 March 2019

#### EFFECTIVE START DATE

25 March 2019

#### REVIEW DATE

6 December 2021

#### STATUS

Active

## 5. Determination

5.1 The recipients of commendations and medals will be determined by the Director, Student Services and Engagement, in accordance with these procedures, and will be advised to the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic). Details of students to be awarded will also be forwarded to each Head of School.

5.2 Determination of the awards will be made prior to each Graduation Ceremony and will include consideration of all students who have been graduated since the previous Graduation Ceremony.

## 6. Notification

6.1 A notation stating that a commendation or medal has been awarded will be included on the recipient's statement of academic record.

6.2 The award of a commendation or medal will be notified to Academic Board and will be acknowledged at the appropriate Graduation Ceremony.

END

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### RELATED DOCUMENTS

[Award of Chancellor's Medal - Procedures](#)

[Grades and Grade Point Average \(GPA\) - Academic Policy](#)

[Scholarships, Bursaries and Prizes - Governing Policy](#)

[Scholarships, Bursaries and Prizes: Establishment and Award - Procedures](#)

### LINKED DOCUMENTS

[Scholarships, Bursaries and Prizes - Governing Policy](#)

### SUPERSEDED DOCUMENTS

[Award of a University Commendation for Academic Excellence - Managerial Policy](#)|[Award of a University Commendation for Academic Excellence \(Postgraduate Coursework Study\) - Managerial Policy](#)|[Award of Faculty Commendation for Academic Excellence - Managerial Policy](#)|[Award of University and Faculty Medals - Managerial Policy](#)