

**1. Why did APU discontinue the July commencement?**

To enhance the individual commencement experiences at APU, beginning this academic year, the university will move to two commencement weekends a year in May and December. The July 2015 ceremony has therefore been discontinued. This change allows the university to focus more resources and energy on these significant events. In May and December, APU will continue to host separate commencement ceremonies, one for undergraduate students and another for graduate, professional, and University College students.

**2. Who can participate in the May 2015 spring commencement?**

To be eligible for the May 2015 commencement, you must have completed all degree requirements or be enrolled in your final classes during the spring 2015 or summer 2015 terms. If you have not registered for your last classes, your graduation may be delayed. Please check with your program director or department chair for additional requirements pertaining to your particular degree, such as growth assessments, comprehensive or oral examinations, therapy hours, state tests, portfolios, etc.

Students completing degree requirements in the summer 2015 term *must be enrolled in final courses by March 24, 2015*, to be eligible to participate in the May 2015 commencement ceremony. Students not enrolled in their final summer courses, or those who drop their summer courses, will not be allowed to participate in the May commencement.

**3. When and where is the May 2015 commencement ceremony?**

The ceremony will be held Saturday, May 2, 2015, at 9:30 a.m. in the Cougar Athletic Stadium. Tickets are required for all guests to attend commencement, and an allotted number of tickets will be distributed to graduating students in their graduation apparel mailing.

**4. Can I participate with an owing balance to the university?**

All financial obligations to the university must be met up to and including the commencement term. Loan exit interviews must also be completed prior to degree clearance. Please contact the Office of Graduate Student Financial Services at (626) 815-4570 to check your financial status.

**5. I missed the deadline to submit my Intent to Commence and/or Graduate form. Can I still get my degree posted?**

Yes, you may still submit your Notice of Intent to Commence and/or Graduate form. All degree requirements must be met prior to degree posting. Students who expect to

complete requirements at the conclusion of the spring 2015 or summer 2015 terms will be eligible for one of the following degree posting dates:

- May 2, 2015
- June 13, 2015
- July 25, 2015

**6. My program has additional graduation requirements. Will those prevent me from participating in commencement?**

Please check with your program director or department chair for additional requirements pertaining to your particular degree and participation in commencement. Requirements might include comprehensive or oral examinations, therapy hours, state tests, portfolios, etc. If you have questions regarding your graduation requirements, your program director will be able to provide full details.

**7. If I don't meet the qualifications for participation in the spring 2015 commencement, can I participate in the winter ceremony?**

Yes, but you must submit a new Intent to Commence and/or Graduate form for the winter 2015 ceremony. You will not be charged an additional graduation fee.

**8. How do I submit an Intent to Commence and/or Graduate form?**

Students who intend to participate in the May 2015 commencement must complete an Intent to Commence and/or Graduate form no later than **Friday, January 9, 2015**. The form is available online and may be completed and signed digitally. View the form here: <https://www.hellosign.com/s/9541b53d>

**9. When will my degree be posted?**

All degree requirements must be met prior to degree posting. Students who expect to complete their requirements at the conclusion of the spring 2015 or summer 2015 terms will be eligible for one of the following degree posting dates:

- May 2, 2015
- June 13, 2015
- July 25, 2015

Degree posting begins the Monday following these degree posting dates. Degrees are posted within 30 days after all grades are in and degree requirements have been met. Students enrolled in a combination master's degree and credential program must complete all requirements of both the master's degree and credential prior to degree posting.