



## ACADEMIC AND GRADUATION HONORS

**Policy Number:** 202

**Categorized:** [Academic](#)

**Responsible Office:** Chief Academic Officer

**Subject:** Honoring and recognizing students' academic performance

**Related Policies:** [Grades](#)

**Procedures:** N/A

**Additional Information:**

**Effective Date:**

**Last Reviewed Date:** 06/23/2020

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### 1. Scope

This policy applies to both curricular and non-curricular students. Students who earn grades of incomplete ("I") will not be eligible to earn academic honors. If a student qualifies to receive an academic honor once any "I" grades are changed, he/she shall be awarded the honor at that time.

Students placed only in career studies certificates are not eligible for graduation honors.

### 2. Policy Statement

The College provides the following recognitions for academic excellence:

#### Presidential Scholars

A student's name will be placed on the Presidential Scholars list for any semester that his/her grade point average is 3.75 to 4.00. The student must have completed at least nine semester hours in the current semester (excluding developmental courses) and have earned a minimum of 20 semester hours of credit at NOVA.

#### Dean's List

A student's name will be placed on the Dean's List for any semester that his/her grade point average is 3.50 to 3.74. The student must have completed at least six semester hours in the current semester (excluding developmental courses) with no grade lower than "C."

#### Graduation Honors

Students attending NOVA for a minimum of 30 credit hours in degree programs are eligible for graduation honors. Those attending NOVA for a minimum of 50 percent of the credit hours in their certificate program are eligible for graduation honors. Appropriate honors are based on scholastic achievements and recorded on the degree or certificate as follows:

Cumulative Grade Point Average	Honor
3.20	Cum Laude (with honor)
3.50	Magna Cum Laude (with high honor)
3.80	Summa Cum Laude (with highest honor)

Academic excellence recognitions can be viewed online on a student's unofficial transcript through NOVAConnect.

Students must apply online for graduation to be eligible for graduation honors. Graduation honors are determined by the student's cumulative grade point average at the completion of the semester for which he/she is certified for graduation.

**3. Definitions**

N/A

**4. Procedures**

N/A

**5. Authority**

VCCS Policy 5.1.3 Graduation Honors