Cord & Stole Policy

Commencement is a special ceremony, officiated by the President of the College, where faculty, staff, parents/families and alumni share the excitement and importance of student’s academic accomplishments. It is also a time for the College and Board of Trustees pay special tribute to students who have achieved the distinct honor of the Allegheny College degree. In addition to the traditional cap and gown regalia, students wear academic honor cords and stoles.

The College supports the wearing of honors cords, medallions, stoles, insignia and/or pins at Commencement ceremonies by students who have earned these privileges through achieving academic honors, completing honors programs, as recipients of designated academic scholarship funds, academic unit or departmental honors, military service, induction into Allegheny College-recognized honors societies, athletic distinction, or membership in good standing in college-recognized professional or service organizations. All honors cords, medallions, stoles, pins and insignia must be approved by the Office of the Dean of Students at least two (2) weeks prior to Commencement.

Approved cords, stoles, medallions, sashes, insignia and/or pins are worn in recognition of the student’s identity, cultural heritage and membership in student organizations. Students may wear only one stole of their choice during official commencement activities.

This policy is approved by the Vice President for Student Affairs and the Administrative Executive Council, Campus Life & Community Standards Committee.