

Graduation Policy HEPP30

PURPOSE

This policy aims to define Southern Cross Education Institute (Higher Education)'s position towards graduation of students from the Higher Education courses.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all students of Southern Cross Education Institute (Higher Education).

DEFINITIONS

Graduand	A student who has completed their award and been deemed eligible to graduate.
Graduate	A student who has had their award conferred on them by Southern Cross Education Institute (Higher Education).
Graduation in absentia	When a degree is conferred on a student without their presence at a graduation ceremony.
SCEI-HE	Southern Cross Education Institute (Higher Education)
Student	An individual person who is formally enrolled to study at SCEI-HE. The individual person is who appears on the enrolment documents and who is assigned an SCEI-HE student ID card.
Testamur	The certificate granted to graduating students is provided as documentary evidence of their successful completion of the course.

POLICY

1. Application to Graduate

- 1.1 All students who have fulfilled all academic and administrative course requirements must notify Student Administration of their intention to graduate prior to the advertised graduation application end date. Students will be regularly informed of their academic progression and any outstanding requirements via official communications. These communications will ensure students understand their eligibility for graduation in accordance with institutional and national standards."
- 1.2 Each student must have completed the necessary number of credit points relevant to the course they have enrolled in.
- 1.3 If the student has been granted supplementary or deferred examination pending results or has outstanding components of their course, they will not be eligible for graduation.
- 1.4 SCEI (Higher Education) retains discretionary power to delay a student's graduation, to be used exclusively in exceptional circumstances.
- 1.5 Students are required to:
 - 1.5.1 Submit an Intention to Graduate form to Student Administration.
 - 1.5.2 Confirm their formal name and mailing address to receive the award.

2. Graduation Ceremony

- 2.1 A graduation ceremony will be held at least once per year at which graduands will receive their testamurs. The graduation ceremony is an opportunity for students to reflect on their academic achievements and for the institution to formally recognise their success in completing the course. The ceremony is a key moment for celebrating student progression and attainment.
- 2.2 Students who are invited to attend and accept will be presented with their testamur at the graduation ceremony.
- 2.3 Two places will be set aside at each ceremony for the family and friends of each graduand. Additional fees will apply if the graduand wishes to bring more than two guests to the ceremony.
- 2.4 Testamurs will be presented to students by the Managing Director. The testamur awarded to students is issued in accordance with the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) guidelines and serves as formal recognition of the student's completion of the academic requirements. It is a nationally recognised document affirming the student's qualification.
- 2.5 Students who do attend the graduation ceremony must choose to either collect a testamur at SCEI-HE or

have it mailed to the graduate's address. Such students will receive their testamur following the graduation ceremony.

2.6 When collecting a testamur from SCEI-HE Student Administration, a graduate must present their student identification card.

2.7 If a testamur is to be mailed, the graduate must provide a current postal address, and it will be delivered by registered post.

3. Academic Regalia

3.1 Graduates attending a graduation ceremony are required to wear the appropriate academic regalia. Students who may face financial barriers in hiring the academic regalia should contact Student Administration to inquire about available support options or discounts for regalia hire.

3.2 Academic regalia is hired from an external provider and information regarding the arrangements for the hire of gown is communicated to students who are eligible to graduate.

3.3 The academic regalia that are hired must be returned at the time specified on the Graduation Ceremony Registration Form. Additional fees will be payable in the event of a late return or if the academic regalia is returned in a damaged condition.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Graduation Ceremony Registration Form
Student Complaint and Grievance Policy and Procedure HEPP03
Academic Appeals Policy and Procedure HEPP05
Conferring Academic Qualifications Policy and Procedure HEPP32

LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

Nil

RESPONSIBILITIES

Academic Director
Course Coordinator
Student Administration Manager

DOCUMENT AND RECORD CONTROL

Created	Dec 2015 (V1.0)
Amended	Mar 2019 (V1.1); Jun 2020 (V1.2); Feb 2022 (V1.3); Jan 2024 (V1.4), Feb 2025 (V1.5), Sep 2025 (V1.6)
Last reviewed by	Quality Assurance and Compliance Unit (Feb 2025)
Last approved by	Corporate Board (Sep 2025)
Version	1.6
Effective date	Sep. 2025
Next planned review	Sep 2027