GRADUATION & COMMENCEMENT FAQs
MAY 2020 GRADUATES

When can I receive my cap & gown (regalia)?
We realize your cap & gown are important to you. Due to current Tennessee and University social distancing/safer at home guidelines, gowns are not currently available but your cap and tassel will be sent as part of your trueBLUE Graduation Box.

Regardless if you plan to participate in the August* ceremony, you will be eligible to pick-up the appropriate regalia at the Bookstore on Friday, July 31 from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Saturday, August 1 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Monday, August 3rd – Thursday, August 6th from 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., and Friday, August 7th from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. You will need to bring your MTSU issued photo ID or other valid photo ID if you would like to come and pick up a gown at one of the times/dates above. If you plan to participate in the December ceremony, your regalia may be picked up during the scheduled August or December pick-up dates. Students in the College of Graduate Studies will receive their hood in addition to their gown.

Can someone else pick up my gown (regalia)?
Yes. If someone else will be picking up your regalia, please provide them with a signed statement from you, authorizing them to pick up your regalia. Your note will need to list your name and MTSU M# and include the name of your designee. Make sure your designee comes prepared to present a valid photo ID, such as a driver's license or their MTSU issued ID if they are also a student.

EDD/PHD Only: If you responded to Phillips Bookstore-Barnes & Noble with your doctoral regalia size by the March 30th deadline, your regalia will be included in your trueBLUE Graduation Box.

What will be in my trueBLUE Graduation Box?
Your trueBLUE Graduation Box will include your MTSU diploma cover with diploma inside, your mortar board (cap), unique blue tassel with 2020 drop, two commemorative programs, an invitation to a future ceremony, MTSU special gift, MTSU Alumni bag, appropriate Latin Honors stole if earned and gift from Veterans Affairs for Veteran students. Please read below if you were receiving a stole/cords from another campus department, organization or University Honors College.

What do I need to do to participate in a future graduation ceremony?
Once we have finalized the RSVP process for May 2020 graduate participation at a future commencement ceremony, we will email a link to all verified May graduates. You should expect to receive the RSVP link by May 22 in your MTSU student email account. This will allow you and your family time to make plans to attend the ceremony with the best fit for you. Our next three commencements are scheduled for August 8, 2020, December 12, 2020 and May 7 & 8, 2021. Time(s) will be announced once participant numbers can be determined.

IMPORTANT NOTE: While the university plans to hold August* commencement, final event decisions are contingent on public health circumstances surrounding the global pandemic.

When will my degree post?
Final grades are due from instructors on Monday, May 11th. Once all final grades have been received and end of term processing is complete, the Graduation Analysts will verify each expected graduate has successfully completed all requirements. Degrees for verified May graduates are expected to post on Friday, May 15.
How soon can I receive proof of my degree (official transcript)?
Your official transcript is the official record of your degree(s) earned. Transcripts for verified May graduates will be ready for release on Friday, May 15th. You may choose to order transcripts using the direct link in your PipelineMT: Registration & Student Records > Academic Records > Transcript - Order Official. If you place your order now and select the “Hold for Degree” option, your transcript order(s) will be processed as soon as your degree is awarded. This is a fastest and most efficient way to release your transcript once your degree is awarded.

NOTE: We also report your degree to the National Student Clearinghouse. Current and potential employees can request verification of degree directly from the Clearinghouse.

Am I required to take the senior exit exam or major field test?
No. The requirement for completing the senior exit exam and major field test has been suspended for Spring 2020 graduates.

Am I graduating with Latin honors?
Latin honors are only awarded to undergraduate students.

UNDERGRADUATE LATIN HONORS – BASED ON INCLUSIVE GPA
Cum Laude: 3.500 - 3.749 Inclusive GPA
Magna Cum Laude: 3.750 - 3.899 Inclusive GPA
Summa Cum Laude: 3.900 - 4.000 Inclusive GPA

The inclusive GPA is calculated by combining your college level work attempted at MTSU, as well as, all college level coursework attempted at any other institution you attended. The GPA on your transcript and DegreeWorks lists your overall GPA.

To view your current Inclusive GPA in PipelineMT:
Registration & Student Records menu > Academic Records box > Choose GPAs or Graduation Information link

NOTE: If you are awarded Latin honors, the appropriate stole will be provided in your trueBLUE Graduation Box and your Latin honors designation will be listed on your diploma and official transcript.

When will I receive my diploma?
Your diploma will be mailed to you in your trueBLUE Graduation Box. To guarantee you receive your specially prepared trueBLUE Graduation Box, please make sure you have verified your DIPLOMA MAILING ADDRESS. If a change is needed, you will need to email records@mtsu.edu from your MTSU email account with the updated diploma address information no later than 10 a.m., Friday, May 8th. You should review your diploma address in your Pipeline account.

Registration & Student Records > Academic Records > Graduation Information link.

When will I receive my trueBLUE Graduation Box?
The boxes will be individually packaged and are expected to be ready to mail by Friday, May 29. Please allow 7-10 business days for delivery.
I am an international student who will return home prior to May 20th, will my trueBLUE Graduation Box be mailed to me?
Yes. To guarantee you receive your personal trueBLUE Graduation Box, please make sure you have verified your DIPLOMA MAILING ADDRESS. If a change is needed, you will need to email records@mtsu.edu from your MTSU email account with the updated diploma address information no later than 10 a.m., Friday, May 8th.

Registration & Student Records > Academic Records > Graduation Information link.

Official Transcripts: Transcripts will not be included in the trueBLUE Graduation Box. Official transcripts may be ordered through PipelineMT using TranscriptsPlus who provides FedEx International or eTranscript options. Visit www.mtsu.edu/transcripts for ordering information.

How do I order a duplicate diploma?
The required form with instructions for ordering a duplicate diploma is available here www.mtsu.edu/one-stop/docs/diplreplace.pdf. Duplicate diploma orders for Spring 2020 graduates will be processed after all trueBLUE Graduation Boxes are mailed and will arrive in a separate envelope.

I was expecting to receive a cord/stole due to my participation in Experiential Learning (EXL), MT Engage or from another campus organization. How will I receive my additional cord or stole?
The offices of Experiential Learning (EXL) and MT Engage have plans to mail the cords to you. Other offices will be responsible for communicating how they will provide their specific cord or stole to you. If you have not already received an email from the department/organization, please email their office directly.

I am graduating for the University Honors College. How will I receive my honors cord and bronze medallion?
If you are graduating from the University Honors College, your blue & white cord will be included in your trueBLUE Graduation Box. The Honors College will mail the bronze medallion to those students who successfully defended their thesis this semester.

Is there a fee to participate in a future graduation ceremony?
There are no additional fees to participate in commencement, as these fees are included in the student service fees.

Still have a question?
Let us know by emailing Records@mtsu.edu. Other May graduates may be wondering the same thing, but please read through the FAQs carefully in case we already listed the answer.