

**Policy Number:** 02-70-040

**Policy Title:** Degrees Awarded with Honors

**Effective Date:** May 31, 2012

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1. **Policy Statement**

This policy defines the terms and conditions under which a graduating degree candidate who has demonstrated outstanding achievement in Dentistry (D.M.D.), Medicine (M.D.), Pharmacy (Pharm.D.), Nursing (B.S.) or Radiation Therapy (B.S.) may be considered for a degree with honors. Degree honors are awarded upon graduation by the respective school based on earned grade point average while enrolled in that academic program. Graduates earning honors may be given a gold honor cord to wear in the commencement ceremony. The distinction of honors is recorded on the academic transcript.

“Baccalaureate Degree with Honors” refers to honors awarded with the Latin terms: Cum Laude, Magna Cum Laude, and Summa Cum Laude. Cum Laude means “with praise,” Magna Cum Laude means “with great praise,” and Summa Cum Laude means “with highest praise.”

To earn the baccalaureate with honors, a student must complete the minimum credits required by the program to earn an OHSU degree and maintain a grade point average above 3.8 out of a 4.0 scale in all courses taken at OHSU.

Cum Laude – 3.80 - 3.89

Magna Cum Laude – 3.90 - 3.99

Summa Cum Laude – 4.0

“Professional Doctorate Degree with Honors” are degrees awarded using the English terms: “With Honor,” “With Great Honor,” and “With Highest Honor.” The grade point average for honors must be at least a 3.5 or above out of a 4.0 scale (or a 2.5 or above out of a 3.0 scale). Determination of levels of honors shall be at the discretion of the academic unit.

2. **Definitions**

N/A

3. **Responsibilities**

N/A

4. **Procedures**

N/A

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**Implementation Date:** May 31, 2012

**Revision History:** N/A

**Related Policies and Procedures:** N/A

**Responsible Office:** Office of the Dean  
School of Dentistry, 503-494-8801  
School of Medicine, 503-494-8220  
School of Nursing, 503-494-7444  
College of Pharmacy, 503-494-5778  
School of Public Health, 503-494-9330

**Supersedes:** CAP Policy 2-01-0612

**Key Words:** Degrees awarded with honors, graduate, academic record, achievement