

# Siena College

## Commencement Cords, Stoles & Accessories

<b>Policy Title:</b>	<i>Commencement Cords, Stoles &amp; Accessories</i>
<b>Type or category of Policy:</b>	<i>College Policy</i>
<b>Approval Authority:</b>	<i>President's Cabinet</i>
<b>Responsible Executive:</b>	<i>Director of Academic Programs/Commencement Coordinator</i>
<b>Responsible Office:</b>	<i>Academic Affairs</i>
<b>Owner Contact:</b>	<i>Dr. Margaret Madden, Provost and Senior Vice President</i>
<b>Reviewed By:</b>	<i>Academic Affairs</i>
<b>Reviewed Date:</b>	<i>June 8, 2022</i>
<b>Last Revised and Effective Date of Revision:</b>	<i>June 8, 2022</i>

### ***\*Brief Overview of the Policy***

*Policy on the use of cords, stoles and other accessories at Siena College commencement ceremonies.*

### ***Reason for Policy***

*Establishment of guidelines governing the use of cords, stoles and other accessories at commencement.*

## **Scope of the Policy: Entities or Individuals affected by this policy**

*Graduating seniors*

*Advisors to student honor societies and affinity groups*

## **The Official Policy**

### **Policy on Use of Cords, Stoles and Accessories at Commencement**

#### **General Policy**

Siena College supports the wearing of honor cords and stoles at Commencement ceremonies by graduates who have earned these privileges through the completion of academic honors programs and induction into college-recognized honor societies. Veterans and current members of the U.S. military; HEOP students; student-athletes; members of the Student Government Association; and affinity groups may also wear approved cords and stoles. (Refer to addendum of current Siena-recognized honor societies and other approved groups/programs for the complete list.)

The academic advisor of an honors program or honor society whose members are eligible for a specific cord/stole shall be responsible for the distribution prior to commencement. Note that some honor cords are included in the membership fee while others are an additional financial responsibility of the member. Graduates should see their honors program/society advisor for more information.

The *red/white/blue cord* is reserved to recognize honorably discharged U.S. veteran students, current students serving in the U.S. military (active duty, National Guard, Reserves), and Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) students commissioned upon graduation. The Veterans Services Office in Foy Hall coordinates the distribution of this cord.

Siena College does not incorporate honor cords at Commencement to recognize cumulative grade index honors (e.g. summa cum laude, magna cum laude and cum laude). Graduates with these honors designations are recognized in the Commencement Program.

#### **Administrative and Financial Support**

Funding for honor cords/stoles is the responsibility of the sponsoring program/honor society, or in some cases the individual student, as deemed appropriate by that program. Any honors program/society that wishes to incorporate cords or stoles into its program for students to wear during Commencement must administer the process for ordering, distributing, and identifying funding sources.

ADDENDUM TO POLICY  
ON USE OF CORDS, STOLES  
and ACCESSORIES  
AT COMMENCEMENT

**SIENA COLLEGE HONOR SOCIETIES  
(COMMENCEMENT HONOR CORDS AND STOLES)**

<b><u>Honor Society</u></b>	<b><u>Cord/Stole</u></b>
• Alpha Kappa Alpha	Gold aiguillette
• Delta Epsilon Sigma	Gold and burgundy cord
• Alpha Kappa Delta	Green cord
• Alpha Mu Gamma	Gold cord
• Beta Alpha Psi	None
• Beta Gamma Sigma	Blue stole
• Financial Management Association National Honor Society	None
• Kappa Delta Pi	Purple and green cord
• National Society of Leadership and Success	Platinum and navy cord or stole
• Omicron Delta Epsilon	Gold stole
• Phi Alpha	None
• Phi Alpha Delta	None
• Phi Alpha Theta	Red and blue honor cord
• Phi Lambda Upsilon	Pink cord
• Phi Sigma Gamma Sigma	None
• Phi Sigma Tau	None
• Pi Gamma Mu	Navy and white cord
• Pi Mu Epsilon	Gold, purple and lavender cord
• Pi Sigma Alpha	Blue and gold cord
• Psi Chi	Blue and white cord
• Sigma Pi Sigma	Green and white cord
• Sigma Tau Delta	Red and black cord
• 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Leaders Society	Green and gold cord
• Upsilon Pi Epsilon	Maroon and white honor cord

**Additional symbolic honor cords and sashes permitted at Commencement**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affinity Clubs               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Asian Students Association</li> <li>○ Black and Latino Student Union</li> <li>○ Latinos Unificado Nuestra America</li> <li>○ Muslim Students Association</li> <li>○ Pride, Gay Straight Alliance</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Gold satin sash
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- ALANA and LAVENDER Green and gold stripes on black stole
- HEOP Green and gold satin sash
- Student-Athletes Gold with green satin sash
- Student Government Association Green, gold and black cord
- Veteran or current member of the armed services Red, white and blue honor cord
- International Students Flag representing home country stole

**\* Resources**

*Policy is posted on the commencement webpage at [www.siena.edu/commencement](http://www.siena.edu/commencement).*

**Adopted:** *September 11, 2018*

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