

TO: Marquell Johnson, Chair
Academic Policies Committee

FROM: Academic Associate Deans

DATE: May 2, 2019

RE: Graduation with Distinction

We request implementation of the following change to the University's policy on **Graduation with Distinction** for students graduating with an associate degree with the next possible *Catalog*. This policy change was agreed to by the Associate Deans at their May 1, 2019, meeting.

From Current Catalog Web Page: <http://catalog.uwec.edu/undergraduate/graduation-requirements/#graduationtext>

Graduation with Distinction

Graduation with distinction is conferred at commencement exercises upon eligible students earning a first or second baccalaureate degree. Eligibility is based on both the resident and the total GPAs as defined under Grade Point Requirements. A student must earn in both computations (resident and total GPAs) the minimum GPA required at each of the three levels of distinction listed below and a minimum of 30 credits in residence to be eligible:

Summa Cum Laude at least 3.80
Magna Cum Laude at least 3.50
Cum Laude at least 3.20

To:

Graduation with Distinction

Graduation with distinction is conferred at commencement exercises upon eligible students earning a first or second baccalaureate **or associate** degree. Eligibility is based on both the resident and the total GPAs as defined under Grade Point Requirements. A student must earn in both computations (resident and total GPAs) the minimum GPA required at each of the three levels of distinction listed below and a minimum of 30 credits in residence to be eligible:

Summa Cum Laude at least 3.80
Magna Cum Laude at least 3.50
Cum Laude at least 3.20

Why:

UW Colleges have offered graduating students with associate degrees cum laude distinction. They have asked if UW-Eau Claire would be willing to extend this distinction beginning with fall 2019 graduates. The Associate Deans agreed that adding "or associate" to the policy is acceptable.

MG/an