



2026 Departmental Graduate Student Honors

Celebrate the 77th Commencement

In recognition of outstanding graduate student achievements

In recognition of outstanding graduate student achievements, departments may honor graduating Master's degree candidates by special recognition in the annual commencement ceremonies. The number of honors awarded by a department shall be limited to three students or five percent of graduates, whichever is larger.

Departmental Graduate Student Honors are usually reserved for post-baccalaureate students not otherwise recognized by university or college awards. These honors are normally conferred for excellence in and contributions to the discipline, including outstanding seminar papers, artistic exhibitions, special achievements in field work, and service in university committees and functions, as well as participation in scholarly and professional organizations resulting from student research.

Graduates are eligible for departmental honors if they have completed all master's degree requirements and are receiving a diploma dated December 2025, January 2026, May 2026, August 2026, or December 2026.

Deadlines

- Nominations due to department offices: **Monday, February 16, 2026.**
- Department recommendations for honors due to CNSM College Office: **Monday, March 2, 2026.**

Criteria

- Nominees must complete all degree requirements and be receiving a diploma dated December 2025, January 2026, May 2026, August 2026, or December 2026.
- Nominees must have graduated (December 2025) or filed for graduation (Deadline: March 1, 2026 for on-time Fall 2026; late filing for Spring/Summer 2026 with \$10 fee).
- Departments may have additional requirements.

Directions

Nominees/Nominators: By Monday, February 16, 2026, send an email **from your @csulb.edu email address** to your respective major department (see [CNSM Commencement Awards](#) for department email addresses) with the following information in the body of the email:

1. *Full Name (as it should appear on the certificate)*
2. *Student ID Number*
3. *Address/City*
4. *Email Address*

5. *Phone*
6. *Major*
7. *Degree Completion Date*
8. *G.P.A. - CSULB*
9. *G.P.A. - cumulative*
10. *Departments may also require some or all of the following to be submitted. Check with the department to see what applies:*
 - a. *Current Resume*
 - b. *Letter(s) of Recommendation (should be sent by the recommenders)*
 - c. *MyCSULB transcript*
 - d. *Any additional department-required materials*
11. *Indication (yes/no) of expected availability to attend Commencement*

Departments: By Monday, March 2, 2026, forward a department-ranked list of nominees to the CNSM College Office (email CNSM-Commencement@csulb.edu). For each award recipient, include information items 1-6 (above). Retain any supporting documentation in the department office.