

Regalia Guidelines

All graduates must wear an approved cap and gown for graduation ceremonies. Approved caps and gowns will be available through a centralized vendor. Attire and regalia should be consistent with the decorum and honor of the event. The University respectfully requests that students wear footwear appropriate for standing for lengths of time and traversing stage at the ceremony.

Cords and Stoles:

All cords and stoles must be approved by the Registrar's office. A cord or stole can be approved for use by a nationally recognized academic honors society, a registered student organization, or a university academic or athletic department. Cords or stoles for recognized student groups must generally extend no longer than the waist on a person of average height and be no wider than six inches. No text is allowed on the cord or stole except for the name of the group/department/organization.

Cords or stoles submitted for approval must be distinguishable in color from those already approved for use by another group, there should be no duplication of regalia. Students are not required to wear a cord or stole. Students are restricted to no more than two stoles and three cords.

Since the University Senate has specified the University Honors designations as the highest honor granted to an undergraduate by The University of South Dakota, the use of gold stoles will be reserved only for University Scholars and Thesis Scholars.

Groups wishing to have a cord or stole approved by the Registrar's office must apply by no later than two months prior to the date of commencement. The Application for Cord/Stole can be requested at registrar@usd.edu.