HONORS PROGRAM
*Illinois State University*

CREATE YOUR LEGACY with Honors

# Honors Program Graduation Designations

## Honors Program Scholar

Participation in the Honors Program allows students to earn the special "Honors Program Scholar" designation. The designation is indicated on student transcripts and in the Commencement Booklet. Honors Program Scholars also wear a red cord at Commencement.

There is no application process for this designation. Qualifying students will be awarded the designation automatically if they meet the criteria.

**Requirements:**

- Earn a minimum 3.3 cumulative GPA at the time of graduation;
- Participate in the Honors Program a minimum of 3 semesters;
- Successfully complete a minimum of three Honors Learning Experiences; and
- Continue to complete one Honors Learning Experience each semester in the Honors Program through graduation.

Summer term does not qualify as a semester. Students may petition by providing a compelling rationale for an exception.

## Honors in the Major

The Honors Program seeks to facilitate customized learning for Honors students in their disciplines by offering the opportunity for students to engage in Honors education and to have Honors Learning Experiences in upper division courses.

**Benefits to Students:**

- Students engage in an enriched and extended learning experience.
- Students develop as scholars and gain an edge over their peers by choosing a rigorous preparation in their field of study.
- Students demonstrate independent research or creative productivity directly related to their major in a culminating project.
- The designation “Honors in the Major” will be noted in the Commencement Book and on the student’s transcript and diploma.

**Requirements:**

Departments/Schools partner with the Honors Program to specify the types of Honors Learning Experiences required to achieve this designation. General requirements include:

- Earning a minimum 3.3 cumulative GPA at the time of graduation;
- Earning a minimum 3.5 major GPA at the time of graduation;
- Completing one Honors Learning Experience each semester in the Honors Program through graduation;
- Successfully completing the Honors Learning Experiences specified by the Department/School.

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# University Graduation Recognition

**Cum Laude:** Cumulative GPA between **3.65 - 3.79;** White cords to wear at Commencement

**Magna Cum Laude:** Cumulative GPA between **3.80 - 3.89;** Lavender cords to wear at Commencement

**Summa Cum Laude:** Cumulative GPA between **3.90 - 4.0;** Gold cords to wear at Commencement