



**UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA**
Graduate School

IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

December (FALL SEMESTER) 2026 *Note:*

All theses/dissertations must be submitted electronically. If you plan to graduate during FALL 2026, please adhere to the following deadlines:

September 4, 2026	Final date to apply for degree/certificate for Fall 2026 graduation. (Apply in Athena)
September 4, 2026	Final date for submitting Program of Study forms to the Graduate School for graduation in Fall 2026 . An Advisory Committee form for Thesis - Master of Arts, Thesis - Master of Science, and all doctoral candidates must be on file by this date. (Use Program of Study form G138 in gradstatus.uga.edu)
October 1, 2026	Final date for submitting applications for Admission to Candidacy to the Graduate School for doctoral candidates who plan to graduate Fall 2026 . If you were not admitted to candidacy prior to June 19, 2026 you must register for Fall 2026 .
October 9, 2026	Final date for submitting requests for Transfer of Credit, with accompanying transcripts, to the Graduate School for students graduating in Fall 2026 .
October 16, 2026	Final date for doctoral students to submit information for the Commencement Program for Fall 2026 graduation (Use the G120 form in gradstatus.uga.edu)
October 26, 2026	Final date for electronically submitting one complete copy of a thesis or dissertation for a format check for Fall 2026 graduation. (<i>Note: this is the "first format check" deadline</i>)
November 18, 2026	Final date for receipt of the following by the Graduate School: Final Defense Approval Form & ETD Submission Approval Form (all doctoral, Thesis - MS, Thesis - MA, MHP, MUPD, and MLA) and corrected copy of thesis/dissertation for Fall 2026 graduation. (<i>Note: this is the final format check, final defense approval form, and the release option form for all dissertation and thesis degrees</i>)
December 4, 2026	Final date for completing all requirements except submission of theses/ dissertations (see earlier deadline - November 18, 2026) . The Graduate School must receive notification concerning removal of incomplete grades, certificate completions, final examinations, etc., for Fall 2026 graduation. (<i>Note: this does not include grades for courses in which students are currently enrolled</i>)
TBD	Graduation: The Registrar's office will mail diplomas approximately six to eight weeks after graduation. Address changes, if necessary, should be made with the Office of the Registrar to ensure receipt of diploma. https://grad.uga.edu/about/annual-events/commencement/
January 4, 2027	Date the Graduate School will accept theses/dissertations for format checks for future graduations.

If you have applied for Fall graduation and find you will not be able to meet one of these deadlines, e-mail gradinfo@uga.edu to request a change in graduation.

A graduate student who misses a graduation deadline by failing to file the application for graduation, advisory committee form or completed Program of Study form will have the option of paying a single fee of \$50 for late processing of all required forms. A Late Filing for Graduation form, all required graduation forms and late fee payment must be submitted to the Graduate School, Office of Enrolled Student Services within 45 calendar days of the original deadline. **After the 45-day late period, no students will be added to the commencement roster for the current semester without special approval.**

GRADUATE STUDENTS MUST BE REGISTERED FOR A MINIMUM OF 3 HOURS IN AT LEAST TWO SEMESTERS PER ACADEMIC YEAR (FALL, SPRING, SUMMER), INCLUDING THE THREE HOURS OF GRADUATE CREDIT THAT IS REQUIRED FOR REGISTRATION DURING THE SEMESTER IN WHICH DEGREE REQUIREMENTS ARE COMPLETED.

To review the Graduate Enrollment Policy, please visit:

<https://policy.uga.edu/policies/#/programs/HyckuvOO6?bc=true&bcCurrent=Graduate%20Enrollment%20Policy&bcGroup=Academic%20Regulations&bcItemType=programs>