

## MASSEY UNIVERSITY COUNCIL GRADUATION STATUTE

<b>Section</b>	Council
<b>Contact</b>	Office of the DVC Students and Global Engagement
<b>Last Review</b>	December 2021
<b>Next Review</b>	December 2024
<b>Approval</b>	C21/128

### Purpose:

Te Kunenga ki Pūrehuroa Massey University's commitment to excellence in research and learning is publicly acknowledged and celebrated at its graduation ceremonies and through publication of its graduates on the Massey University website. Compliance with the principles of sound corporate governance ensures the integrity of the graduation processes.

### Statute:

The Council of Massey University is empowered through the Education and Training Act 2020 to make awards. The Council confers degrees and awards diplomas and certificates at graduation ceremonies or 'in Council'.

At a graduation ceremony, the Chancellor, Pro-Chancellor, or Council nominee has the delegated authority of Council to confer degrees and award diplomas and certificates on those to be presented in person or listed as 'in absentia' in each Graduation Programme. In the first instance of the Chancellor's absence the Pro-Chancellor would officiate followed by a Council nominee, Vice-Chancellor, University Registrar (DVC Students and Global Engagement) then Provost. With the University Registrar and Provost to subsequently fill the Vice-Chancellor and University Registrar roles respectively should the need arise.

'In Council' graduations normally take place at Academic Board meetings, where the Academic Board, under the delegated authority of Council, confer degrees and award diplomas and certificates to those so listed. Council itself can also confers degrees and awards diplomas and certificates to those so listed, as and when required.

The Massey University Council Graduation Statute, and its Procedures and Guidelines reflect the tenets of risk management regarding the integrity of the graduation processes, including generally accepted principles of good governance; uniformity of processes across all campuses responsible for the management of the graduation processes; accountability; and attestation processes confirming the identity and eligibility of those graduating.

### Scope of the Massey University Council Graduation Statute, and its Procedures and Guidelines:

The Massey University Council Graduation Statute, and relevant Procedures and Guidelines, are applicable to all graduation ceremonies and 'in Council' graduations.

Graduations generally take place in New Zealand but can upon Council agreement take place overseas or online on the recommendation of the Vice-Chancellor or Deputy Vice-Chancellor Students and Global Engagement. Participants taking part in Celebrations to Honour Graduates, will have previously graduated.

The Massey University Council Graduation Statute, and relevant Procedures and Guidelines, are also applicable to all participants and associated service providers involved in any graduation function or allied event.

**Definitions:**

'In Council' graduation: where the graduate has chosen to graduate at a time other than a graduation ceremony. The dates are declared by the university and will be the dates of the Academic Board meetings, and Council meetings as required.

'In absentia' graduation: where a graduate chooses to be listed in a graduation ceremony programme but not attend the ceremony. The graduate is listed as 'in absentia'.

**Audience:**

This Statute is applicable to all staff and graduating students within the university community.

**Relevant legislation:**

Education and Training Act 2020 Section 283 (2(a))

**Legal compliance:**

Health and Safety at Work Act 2015

**Related procedures / documents:**

Massey University Graduation Procedures and Guidelines - refer staff intranet

**Document Management Control:**

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