Honors Cords and Medallions

Graduating with Distinction

Indiana University holds all of its graduates in high esteem, and takes an added measure of pride in those who have excelled academically. Candidates who are graduating with Distinction, High Distinction, and Highest Distinction are entitled to wear on their left shoulders the *fourragère*, cream and crimson cords. In addition, on some campuses, some students are entitled to wear gold medallions indicating they are graduating with honors. The requirements for graduating with honors are different for each school, and honors are awarded by a vote of various faculties. The *fourragère* are provided by the university and become the property of the student.

Honors Cords

Graduates who are members of the nearly 60 nationally recognized honor societies listed below may also wear their societies’ honors cords or medallions during Commencement. Cords also are available for purchase directly from the various society headquarters. Cords become the property of the student.

*note “cords,” not sash or stole.

Permission to wear cords from an honor society not listed must be requested at least 30 days before Commencement. The request must include detailed descriptions of the organization and the cord or medallion.

Requests should be submitted to University Ceremonies at IU Bloomington, and to the Offices of Alumni Affairs on all other campuses. Campus academic officers will be consulted on all such requests.

Once approved the distinctive items may be worn at all subsequent Commencements.

A

**Alpha Chi** -- National honor society for juniors and seniors.  
[http://www.harding.edu/alphachi/index.html](http://www.harding.edu/alphachi/index.html)

**Alpha Epsilon Delta** – National Health Pre-professional Honor Society.  

**Alpha Kappa Delta** – International Sociology Honor Society. Teal cord.  

**Alpha Phi Sigma** – National Criminal Justice Honor Society. Blue and gold honor cords.  

**Alpha Psi Omega** – national Honorary Theatre Society. Light blue and amber cords.  

Alpha Sigma Lambda, the national honor society for General Studies (IU East)


Eta Sigma Phi - National Honor Society for students of Latin and/or Greek. Purple and gold cords. http://department.monm.edu/classics/esp/


Kappa Tau Alpha – Honor Society in Journalism and Mass Communication. Colors are light blue and gold. [http://web.missouri.edu/~umcjourktahq/](http://web.missouri.edu/~umcjourktahq/)


M

Mortarboard National College Senior Honor Society—Black and gold cords. [http://www.mortarboard.org/](http://www.mortarboard.org/)

Mu Kappa Tau—Honor Society in Marketing. Gold and purple cords. [www.pse.org/home.asp](http://www.pse.org/home.asp)

O

Omega Chi Epsilon--National Honor Society for Chemical Engineering. No cords. [http://www.che.utoledo.edu/oxe/](http://www.che.utoledo.edu/oxe/)


P


Phi Alpha, National Social Work Honor Society (East)


Phi Beta Kappa - National Scholarship Honor Society for Liberal Arts and Sciences. Phi Beta Kappa Key suspended from blue and pink ribbon. [https://staging.pbk.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Home3](https://staging.pbk.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Home3)


Pi Omega Pi -- National Business Education Teacher Honor Society. http://catpages.nwmissouri.edu/m/oisbe/piomegapi/

Pi Sigma Alpha - Political Science Honor Society. Medallion on a broad red grosgrain ribbon. http://www.apsanet.org/~psa/

Pi Tau Sigma--Mechanical Engineering Honor Society. No cords. http://www.pitausigma.net/


**Sigma Delta Pi** - Hispanic Honor Society. Badge with yellow and red ribbons.  

**Sigma Gamma Epsilon** – The National Honor Society for Earth Sciences. No cords.  
[http://www.earth.uni.edu/SGE/](http://www.earth.uni.edu/SGE/)

**Sigma Phi Alpha** -- National Dental Hygiene Honor Society. White satin stoles.  
[http://www.sigmaphialpha.org/index.htm](http://www.sigmaphialpha.org/index.htm)

**Sigma Pi Sigma** – National Physics Honor Society. Green and beige cords.  
[http://www.sigmapisigma.org/](http://www.sigmapisigma.org/)

**Sigma Tau Delta** – International English Honor Society. Black and red cords.  

**Sigma Theta Tau** -- International Honor Society of Nursing. Purple and white cords.  

**T**

**Tau Alpha Pi** -- National Honor Society for Engineering Technology.  

[http://tak.syr.edu/](http://tak.syr.edu/)

**U**

**Upsilon Pi Epsilon**--International Honor Society for the Computing and Information Disciplines. Maroon and white cords.  
[http://upe.acm.org/index.html](http://upe.acm.org/index.html)

**IU organizations**

**Cox Scholarship Program** -- Red cords with blue/gold tassels