

## Graduation and Commencement

- Graduation and Commencement coupled together.
  - Graduation is the awarding of degrees.
  - Commencement is the ceremony.
  - Spring 2021 – **86.5%** of Columbia undergraduates who applied to graduate answered “YES” to attend commencement.
- Advisors can see the student's graduation application in SSC as soon as student completes the application. It can be viewed and is hyperlinked on the Student Profile just to the right of the ID photo.
- Calendar of important deadlines – [sc.edu/registrar](http://sc.edu/registrar) > Graduation and Commencement
- Sample Spring timeline of events (*dates are approximate*)
  - Students apply to graduate (12/15/2020 – 02/15/21)
    - (While Spring students are applying, colleges are awarding Fall degrees)
  - Colleges approve for candidacy (optional) (02/16/2021 – 03/15/2021)
  - Commencement Program Design, Marching Order name pronunciation software (03/16/2021 – 4/12/2021)
  - **Program goes to print, Marching Order creates recordings of +/- 6,000 student names (04/13/2021–04/26/2021)**
  - Quality control – Test 6,000 Marching Order recordings, etc. (04/27/2021 – 05/05/2021)
  - Ceremonies (5/7/2021 – 5/8/2021)
  - Awarding of degrees (5/10/2021 – 06/14/2021)
  - Mailing of diplomas (06/15/2021 – 08/10/2021)