UAlbany Commencement Ceremony Flag Bearers
Policies

The following flags will be used in the Commencement ceremonies:

- Ceremonial flags of the U.S. and New York State are carried by R.O.T.C. Color Guards.
- Ceremonial flags for the City of Albany, the University at Albany, as well as international flags are carried by eligible graduating students.

The following are policies students must comply with in order to be a flag bearer:

1. Flags will include those of United Nations member states, U.S. associated states and territories, sovereign partners of the U.S., and territories with National Authorities holding permanent observer status at the United Nations. Students wishing to carry flags from countries other than these will be offered the opportunity to carry another flag representing world peace and harmony, such as the flag of the United Nations, of the African Union, and the Arab League.

2. No flag will be carried unless there is a student from that country in the graduating class.

3. All flag bearers must be legitimate degree applicants in good standing with the University at Albany, as verified by the Undergraduate or Graduate Dean’s Office and the Office of Community Standards.

4. Students will be invited to carry the flag of their country based first on overall GPA rankings. Eligible students not selected to carry their home country flag will be offered the opportunity to carry the flag of another country if a student from that country either declines or fails to respond by the specified deadlines.

5. The student must have been born in, or be a citizen of, the country whose flag s/he is carrying, unless the student has volunteered to carry another country’s flag (see #4 above).

6. Flag protocol, such as www.usa-flag-site.org/flag-etiquette will be used to resolve questions about the proper display of the flags.

7. The Commencement Committee reserves the right to make final decisions regarding which flags will be carried in a given ceremony, and by which students.