



Chapter 5 Graduation

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS - The requirements for graduation at Joliet Junior College are those specified in the official college catalog at the time a student enrolls. Unless a student interrupts his/her enrollment for more than three consecutive years, he/she may elect to abide by the graduation requirements specified in any later catalog. If the student does interrupt his/her enrollment by more than three years, he/she will be subject to the requirements stated in the current catalog at the time of initial re-enrollment. Again, a student may elect to abide by the graduation requirements set forth in any subsequent catalog.

The student has the ultimate responsibility to fulfill the requirements for the degree, to check the eligibility to take courses, and to observe the academic rules governing the program. The adviser's role is to assist the student in making important decisions.

To be awarded an associate's degree at Joliet Junior College, each student must meet the following requirements:

1. Satisfy all admission requirements.
2. Complete the courses required to earn the given degree.
3. Complete a minimum of 64 semester hours of credit of which either the last 15 semester hours OR a total of 30 semester hours applicable to the degree must be earned at JJC.
4. Earn a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.0.
5. Public Law 195 requires that degree-seeking students demonstrate knowledge concerning the Declaration of Independence, the Constitutions of the United States and the state of Illinois, balloting procedures, and the proper use and display of the flag. This requirement may be satisfied by: 1) successful completion of PSCI 101 and 102; 2) taking the Constitution examination; or 3) evidence that the student has met the requirement at a high school in Illinois (or Illinois GED) or at an Illinois community college or four-year college or university. In the latter case, an official transcript from the high school (or GED) is required, which clearly states the student has passed the Constitution examination. Study materials are in the JJC Library.
6. Discharge all financial obligations to the college; have no restrictions.

7. File an application for graduation. (An application should be filed at the time of registration for the semester in which the degree requirements will be completed.)
8. Have on file in the Graduation Office by the graduation filing date all transcripts from other colleges/universities that are to be evaluated for credit, to be applied toward a degree/certificate and proof that the Illinois and U.S. Constitution tests have been passed. A delay in the process may result in a later graduation date.
9. Verification of completion of the Constitution requirement must be on file by the last day of final exams in any given term. A delay in this process may result in a later graduation date. The Constitution test requirement will be considered met in cases in which the degree applicant has previously met the Constitution test requirement at another Illinois public college/university if the official transcript is on file in the Graduation Office.

To be awarded a Certificate of Achievement or a Certificate of Completion at Joliet Junior College, each student must meet the following requirements:

1. Satisfy all admission requirements.
2. Complete the courses required to earn the certificate.
3. Complete a minimum of 15 semester hours at Joliet Junior College, if a transfer student with college work taken elsewhere.
4. Discharge all financial obligations to the college; have no restrictions.
5. File an application for graduation. (An application should be filed at the time of registration for the semester in which the degree requirements will be completed.)
6. Earn a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 in the area of concentration.
7. Complete a minimum of 4-29 hours (Certificate of Completion) or 30-64 hours (Certificate of Achievement).

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES - Held two times a year in May and December. Students who are graduating may participate in the exercises, along with those who have applied for and been tentatively approved for graduation in the coming August (May) or previous August (December). There is a cap and gown fee. Students may contact the Graduation Office for commencement information. An additional charge will be assessed by the vendor for those persons who do not meet the required deadline for ordering caps and gowns.

SCHOLASTIC REVIEW - The opportunity for scholastic review will be afforded to those students who want to complete an application for graduation, but whose grade point average is below the minimum required to receive a degree. Such students shall be eligible to make an application to the vice president of academic affairs requesting review of their scholastic records. For graduation purposes, this review allows courses that are not required for the degree or certificate sought to be excluded from the calculation of the grade point average. Courses excluded for this purpose remain on the official transcript and are calculated in the overall grade point average earned at Joliet Junior College.



GRADUATION