

## Honors Designation

The Administrative Procedure set forth shall govern all students entering the ninth grade for the first time in 2019/2020 and each year thereafter.

Hardy County high school graduates are recognized using the Latin Honor System: cum laude, magna cum laude, and summa cum laude based upon cumulative GPA after the third nine-week or fifth six-week grading periods. Any student who obtained honors based on academic achievement may not be deprived of such honors as disciplinary action.

In order to be recognized as an Honor Graduate, cum laude, a student must have a minimum GPA of 3.50-3.69.

In order to be recognized as an Honor Graduate, magna cum laude, a student must have a minimum GPA of 3.70-3.89.

In order to be recognized as an Honor Graduate, summa cum laude, a student must have a minimum GPA of 3.90-4.0+.

A student's academic status will be based on courses from the ninth grade through the twelfth grade including secondary courses completed at the middle school. To receive academic recognition, a student shall attend Hardy County Schools for a minimum of three consecutive semesters prior to commencement.

In order to allow time for preparations for scholarship awards and commencement exercises, the rankings and those receiving honors designations shall be determined: 1) Nine-week grading periods – the third nine weeks marking period of the senior year shall count as the final semester grade, 2) six-week grading periods – the fifth marking period of the senior year with the average of the fourth and fifth marking periods counting as the final semester grade.

The designation of named rankings will not be officially utilized except for scholarships or for other documents on an as needed basis.

Any students graduating Summa Cum Laude can express an interest to speak at graduation. All students in the Summa Cum Laude rank will vote on who they would like to speak. The student with the most votes will have the opportunity to speak. In the event of a tie, the principal shall determine the speaker.

SOURCE: Board of Education Minutes

DATE: February 22, 1988 – June 30, 1997 – April 22, 2002 – March 2, 2020 –  
November 13, 2023