



## **MASSEY UNIVERSITY COUNCIL GRADUATION STATUTE 2025**

### **1. Title and Commencement**

- 1.1 The Council of Massey University makes this Statute under section 283 of the Act.
- 1.2 This Statute may be cited as the Council Graduation Statute.
- 1.3 This Statute comes into force on 6 March 2025.
- 1.4 The Previous Graduation Statute is repealed from the date that this Statute comes into force.

### **2. Application**

- 2.1 This Statute applies to:
  - (a) all staff; and
  - (b) all graduating students within the university community.

### **3. Purpose of this Statute**

Te Kunenga ki Pūrehuroa Massey University's commitment to excellence in research and learning is publicly acknowledged and celebrated at its graduation ceremonies and through publication of its graduates on the Massey University website. Compliance with the principles of sound corporate governance ensures the integrity of the graduation processes.

The Council of Massey University is empowered through the Education and Training Act 2020 to make awards. The Council confers degrees and awards diplomas and certificates at graduation ceremonies or 'in Council'.

### **4. Graduation Ceremonies**

At a graduation ceremony, the Chancellor, Pro-Chancellor, or Council nominee has the delegated authority of Council to confer degrees and award diplomas and certificates on those to be presented in person or listed as 'in absentia' in each Graduation Programme. In the first instance of the Chancellor's absence the Pro-Chancellor would officiate followed by a Council nominee, Vice-Chancellor, University Registrar (DVC Students and Global Engagement) then Provost. With the University Registrar and Provost to subsequently fill the Vice-Chancellor and University Registrar roles respectively should the need arise.

## 5. 'In Council' Graduation

'In Council' graduations normally take place at Academic Board meetings, where the Academic Board, under the delegated authority of Council, confer degrees and award diplomas and certificates to those so listed. Council itself can also confer degrees and award diplomas and certificates to those so listed, as and when required.

## 6. Chancellor Delegated Authority

Council have also resolved that the Chancellor, or their nominee, has the delegated authority of Council to confer degrees and award diplomas and certificates outside of the University Graduation Ceremonies or 'In Council' process to those students reported as having successfully completed the prescribed courses of study for the relevant year as and when required.

## 7. Further Provisions

The Massey University Council Graduation Statute, and its Procedures and Guidelines reflect the tenets of risk management regarding the integrity of the graduation processes, including generally accepted principles of good governance; uniformity of processes across all campuses responsible for the management of the graduation processes; accountability; and attestation processes confirming the identity and eligibility of those graduating.

The Massey University Council Graduation Statute, and relevant Procedures and Guidelines, are applicable to all graduation ceremonies, 'in Council' graduations and occasions where the Chancellor's delegated authority to confer degrees and award diplomas and certificates is exercised.

Graduations generally take place in New Zealand but can upon Council agreement take place overseas or online on the recommendation of the Vice-Chancellor or Deputy Vice-Chancellor Students and Global Engagement.

The Massey University Council Graduation Statute, and relevant Procedures and Guidelines, are also applicable to all participants and associated service providers involved in any graduation function or allied event.

## Definitions

**In Council graduation:** where the graduate has chosen to graduate at a time other than a graduation ceremony. The dates are declared by the university and will be the dates of the Academic Board meetings, and Council meetings as required.

**In absentia graduation:** where a graduate chooses to be listed in a graduation ceremony programme but not attend the ceremony. The graduate is listed as 'in absentia'.

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