Michigan Tech Cap and Gown Policy

Gowns feature distinct styles for Associate, Bachelor, Master and Doctoral degrees. All participants must be in appropriate University regalia.

Associate’s Degree
Associate’s Degree candidates wear a solid black cap and gown. The gown has pointed sleeves and does not hang down. The caps come in one size fits most with an elastic back. The tassel is also black.

Bachelor’s Degree
Bachelor’s Degree candidates wear a solid black cap and gown. The gown has pointed sleeves and does not hang down. The caps come in one size fits most with an elastic back. The tassel colors are based on the academic degree, which is set by the Intercollegiate Commission, and are as follows:

- (white)
- (drab)
- (copper)
- (orange)
- (brown)
- (russet)
- (sage green)
- (gold yellow)
- (cream)

Arts & Letters, Humanities
Commerce Accountancy Business
Economics
Engineering
Fine Arts
Forestry
Physical Education
Science
Social Science

Master’s Degree
Master’s Degree candidates wear a solid black cap and gown and a hood. The gown has an oblong sleeve, open at the wrist, whose base hangs down in the traditional manner. The rear part of its oblong shape is square cut, and the front part has an arc cut away. The caps are one size fits most with an elastic back. The hood length is 3 ½ feet and is lined in the school colors of silver and gold. There is velvet trim on the front that is 3 inches wide and is a golden yellow for all masters degrees. The tassel color is gold.

PhD Degree
PhD Degree candidates wear a solid black cap and gown and a hood. The gown is faced down the front with black velvet and three bars of velvet are used across the bell-shaped sleeves. The caps are one size fits most with an elastic back. The hood length is 4 feet and is lined in the school colors of silver and gold. There is velvet trim on the front that is 5 inches wide. In the case of the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree, which is the only doctor-level degree issued by Michigan Tech, the dark blue color velvet is used to represent the mastery of the discipline of learning and scholarship in any field that is attested to by the awarding of this degree and is not intended to represent the field of philosophy. The tassel is also dark blue.
Faculty Participants
Faculty members participating in the commencement ceremony wear regalia based on the school they received their degree from. If faculty need to order regalia, orders may be placed through the Campus Bookstore website.

Cords
Honor cords are issued to undergraduate degree candidates based on student’s GPA as determined by the University. The Campus Store will have a list of eligible candidates and the honor cords will be available upon pickup of regalia.

Student organizations recognized by the University will be allowed, as a group, to wear a cord or stole in the color of their choosing. The following cord colors are not to be used as they are reserved:

- Red, White and Blue (Veterans)
- Gold (Summa Cum Laude)
- Silver (Magna Cum Laude)
- Copper (Cum Laude)
- Black and Gold (University Athletes)
- Green (Pre-Health)

Each organization should purchase the cord/stole for all members walking, and not for individual recognition. These items must be ordered by the organization. Please plan to have cords/stoles ordered at least three weeks before the ceremony. Each organization will be responsible for purchasing, distributing, and collecting afterward (if desired) the cords/stoles.

For any questions regarding regalia, contact the Campus Bookstore at 906-487-2410 or capandgown@mtu.edu.

For any questions regarding the ceremony, please visit www.mtu.edu/commencement.