

 <p><b>TUCSON UNIFIED</b> SCHOOL DISTRICT</p> <p><b>GOVERNING BOARD REGULATION</b></p>	<p><b>REGULATION TITLE:</b></p> <p><b>Graduation Exercises – Adornments to Cap and Gown</b></p>
	<p><b>REGULATION CODE: IKFB-R</b></p>

**Compliance with Policy JICA**

In recognition of the dignity and importance of graduation commencement exercises to our students and their families, all adornments to cap and gown shall comply with Governing Board [Policy JICA – Student Dress](#).

**Honor Cords**

The following Honor Cords are approved adornments to be worn with a student’s cap and gown:

- District Sponsored National Honor Societies
- Joint Technical Education District, JTED, Program Completion
- Top Academic Students
- Elected Senior Student Leadership

Requests for the recognition of an additional Honor Cord may be submitted to the Assistant Superintendent for the student’s school no later than two weeks prior to the scheduled commencement date.

Such request must include a description of the criteria established for the level of achievement used to bestow such an honor.

**Cultural Adornments Protocols**

Students must wear the designated cap and gown. However, those students wishing to express honor and respect for their cultural traditions by wearing regalia and adornments to the traditional cap and gown, shall adhere to the cultural protocols outlined in this Regulation.

[Policy IKFB](#) has authorized the Superintendent, in consultation with the NASS, the AASS and the MASS, to approve categories of adornments that express appropriate honor and respect for a student’s particular cultural tradition.

Approved categories include:

- Students may wear items of traditional Native American significance to them, including, but not limited to, feathers, flowers, jewelry, beads, cords, cloths or ornaments, to adorn their caps and gowns.

**Guidelines for Requesting Additions to Cultural Adornments Protocols**

Students wishing to request an addition to the above list of approved adornments may petition their Regional Assistant Superintendent.

Such requests shall be in writing and signed by the student and, if the student is a minor, the student's parent or guardian, describing the requested adornment/regalia, and the cultural and/or religious significance as it relates to commencement.

**Guidelines for Approval of Additions to Cultural Adornments Protocols**

In determining whether to approve the adornment, the Regional Assistant Superintendent shall consult with the school principal and Director of the appropriate student services department (if applicable). The Regional Assistant Superintendent may consult with other Assistant Superintendents. The Assistant Superintendent's determination shall be in writing, and shall be final and shared with the Superintendent, the other Regional Assistant Superintendents, and the Legal Department. The following Guidelines for Approval shall be followed:

- The accessory is displayed in a respectful manner.
- The accessory does not distract from the dignity and purpose of the ceremony.
- The accessory does not violate dress code standards, including Policy JICA.

Reviewed: May 6, 2016 (Friday Report)

Revised: May 20, 2019

[IKFB – Participation in Graduation Exercises](#)  
[JICA – Student Dress](#)