

**BU Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine
GRADUATE MEDICAL SCIENCES**

2026 GRADUATION CALENDAR - M.A. AND M.S. DEGREE CANDIDATES

Students may not submit thesis or attend Commencement ceremony, unless a [Diploma Application](#) has been submitted by the appropriate deadline!

NOTE: click on links

1. A candidate must be registered for the semester in which the degree requirements are completed and during the preceding semester.
2. Candidates must adhere to the guidelines as stipulated in the [Guide for Writers of Thesis and Dissertations](#), published by the Mugar Memorial Library. Additional information is available on the GMS website: [Research, Thesis, Capstone and Dissertation Information](#).
3. NOTE: M.A. or M.S. degree students who are not required to complete a thesis MUST submit [Diploma Application](#) in order to be considered for graduation.
4. **Submit a [Special Service Appointment Form](#) with reader C.V., for any reader who is not listed on the [GMS FACULTY](#) webpage.**
5. The following information and deadlines apply to students who anticipate receiving their M.A. or M.S. degree at one of the following graduation cycles. Departments/programs may impose additional deadlines.
6. The diploma application is valid only for the graduation date specified; a new application must be submitted if the student does not graduate as planned.

ALL FORMS can be found on the [GMS Student Forms](#) - GMS website

	<u>January 2026 Award</u>	<u>May 2026 Award</u>	<u>August 2026 Award</u>
Thesis Title Approval Form (Dates are flexible over a two week period) Capstone forms, Track forms, & Practicum: Contact Program Director for specific program deadlines.	June 30, 2025	October 22, 2025	February 2, 2026
SUBMIT Diploma Application by	September 16, 2025	December 1, 2025	April 30, 2026
<i>August completion of degree: If eligible to attend GMS commencement ceremony, submit diploma application by December 1, 2025</i>			
First Draft of Thesis (Contact readers for specific dates)	October 1, 2025	January 29, 2026	May 8, 2026
Thesis Format Review Begins (An email will be sent with specific dates)	October 29, 2025	February 23, 2026	June 10, 2026
*Approved and Signed Thesis	December 3, 2025	April 1, 2026	July 10, 2026

GMS Registrar will send email instructions on thesis format review and deadlines approximately one month prior to the start of the thesis format review. After all readers approve thesis submit an electronic copy of the full thesis in WORD format to GMSThesis@bu.edu, by the set deadlines.

All M.A. and M.S. degree requirements are complete only when the final thesis has been certified as meeting the standards of GMS and of the Mugar Memorial Library.