

Frequently Asked Questions - Graduation

Attire

Graduates and guests should dress comfortably. Men are encouraged to wear dark slacks, light colored shirts and dark shoes. Women are encouraged to wear cool, street-length dresses or pants with low heel and dark shoes.

Times

Arrival Time

Graduates are reminded to arrive at the Allen Event Center by 5:45 p.m. to line up for processional. Anyone arriving after 6:30 p.m. will be placed at the end of the graduate line.

Ceremony Length of Time

Typically, the graduation ceremony does not last more than three hours. The ceremony is expected to end by about 9:30 p.m. However, this is an estimate and the actual time may vary.

Regalia

Graduates participating in the Commencement Ceremony must wear a college-approved cap and gown, available for purchase at the Bookstore located on any campus.

Regalia Policy

Graduates are expected to wear regalia without altering the appearance. Please refrain from attaching or wearing flowers (corsages), pins, stoles or alterations. Graduates who have EARNED honor cords through academic achievement (graduation with a cumulative 3.5 GPA or higher) will be provided with the college-approved cords to wear. Cords will be given out before the ceremony. Students who are members of an honor society may purchase graduation regalia directly from an approved society. Approved list of societies: Phi Theta Kappa, Psi Beta, National Technical Honor Society, Sigma Kappa and Kappa Delta Pi. Graduates are asked to respect the tradition of graduation by wearing regalia as issued by Collin College. The appropriate way to wear the mortarboard is flat on top of the head and not off to the side or fixed to the back of the head.

Diplomas

All commencement participants will receive a commemorative diploma cover at the ceremony. All candidates will receive their diplomas through the mail after completion of degree requirements is certified. If you are a Spring Graduate, diplomas will be mailed by mid-July; if you are a Summer Graduate, diplomas will be mailed by late September; and if you are Fall Graduate, diplomas will be mailed by late February.

Announcements

Students may purchase commencement announcements at the Spring Creek Campus Bookstore.

Guests

There is no limit to the number of guests you may invite. Seating is on a first-come basis; seating is not pre-assigned or reserved.

Photography

A photographer will take pictures during the ceremony. Graduates will receive an email from the photographer to view proofs online.

Graduation Night Final Exams

It is possible that your final exam may coincide with the time of graduation. If this is the case, please speak with your professor to make arrangements to take the final at another time.

Graduation Eligibility and/or Confirmation

For questions on graduation eligibility or confirmation that your graduation petition was received, please contact one of the College's Degree Plan Specialists: Brenda Bond at bbond@collin.edu (phone: 972.881.5186); Diana Platt at dplatt@collin.edu (phone: 972.881.5184) or Jan Rogan at jrogan@collin.edu (phone: 972.881.5424).

Graduation Reminders

Please remember to leave purses, cell phones and other personal belongings in your vehicle. There will NOT be a secure room available to leave personal items.

- The Allen Event Center is a non-smoking venue.
- Strollers are not permitted in the Allen Event Center.
- **NO** balloons, confetti, outside food or beverages, animals and/or strollers are allowed.
- Limited handicap accommodations will be available on the Event floor for family and one guest. All handicap seating must be filled by 6:45 p.m.
- Once the ceremony begins, family and guests will not be permitted to enter through main doors.
- The graduation ceremony is a time to celebrate your accomplishments at Collin College.
- The celebration should be respectful of other members of the graduating class.
- Every graduate would like for family and friends to hear his or her name called when receiving certificate or degree.
- Have fun and enjoy the evening as you take this very important step towards personal and professional enrichment.
- A photographer will be taking pictures during the ceremony. Graduates will receive proofs and an order form delivered to their home address on file.