

# Commencement FAQ's

## **Am I required to attend Commencement?**

Attendance at Commencement is not mandatory. We do, strongly encourage prospective graduates to attend. Commencement is a wonderful way for the college to recognize your achievements and allow you, your family, and your friends to share in your celebration.

## **Is there a Commencement Ceremony rehearsal?**

If you plan to participate in the Commencement Ceremony, you must attend the mandatory rehearsal.

## **Do my family/friends need tickets?**

Guests are not required to have tickets. Seating is first-come, first-seated for all guests.

## **What time do graduates need to arrive and check in?**

All students MUST arrive no later than 45 minutes before the start of the ceremony. Students will be directed to the check-in area upon arrival at the Dyson Baudo Recreation Center, located on the Marietta College campus.

## **Must I wear a cap and gown (regalia)?**

Yes, participation in the Commencement ceremony requires the college's cap and gown regalia. Check your email for information on ordering your regalia.

## **What do I wear under my cap and gown (regalia)?**

You should wear comfortable but appropriate attire and comfortable shoes.

## **Where do I get my cap and gown regalia?**

Caps, and gowns may be purchased online. Honor and Veteran cords will be distributed to eligible students at check-in. Phi Theta Kappa students may order their stoles and tassels through the Phi Theta Kappa website at [ptk.org](http://ptk.org).

## **How long does the Commencement Ceremony last?**

The ceremony lasts approximately one hour, depending on the number of graduates who participate.

## **Where can I park for commencement?**

A variety of parking options are available on the Marietta College campus. Please check the map for designated parking.

## **Are there special accommodations provided for guests?**

All guests and/or graduates with limited mobility or special needs should arrive early to the ceremony, and we will do our best to accommodate your needs.

## **Will I have my photograph taken by an official, professional photographer at the ceremony?**

No. Washington State will be taking photographs for the college website, however, there is no guarantee that each graduate will be photographed. A designated photo area for guests will be available at Commencement.

## **When do I get my diploma?**

Graduates will receive their diplomas on stage during the Commencement Ceremony. Graduates not in attendance will receive their diplomas via the U.S. Post mail approximately 2-4 weeks after the end of the semester.

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**If you have any questions regarding graduation or commencement, please call the Records Office at (740) 568-1904 or email [recordsoffice@wscc.edu](mailto:recordsoffice@wscc.edu).**