

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. Rehearsal is an opportunity for us to ensure everything runs smoothly on the day of the ceremony. Graduates will be lined up according to their program and will practice having their names announced while walking across the stage. Regalia is not necessary during 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 30 minutes before the start of the ceremony. Students will be directed to the check-in area in the lower-level hallway of 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 green cap and gown. Check your email for information on ordering your regalia. Extra caps and gowns will not be available at the ceremony.

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 rehearsal. Phi Theta Kappa students may order their stoles and tassels through the Phi Theta Kappa website at 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?

Diplomas will be mailed to the address we have on file approximately two weeks after the ceremony.

If you have any questions regarding graduation or commencement, please call the Records Office at (740) 568-1904 or email recordsoffice@wsc.edu.