

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, family, and 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 limited to four people per graduate. Please check your email for the RSVP form where you can indicate the number of guests you expect to attend. Guest tickets are distributed to graduates based on the number reserved on the RSVP form. All guests are required to observe safety protocols including wearing masks and social distancing.

What time do graduates need to arrive and check in?

All students MUST arrive no later than 1 hour 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 reserving and picking up 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, gowns, and announcements can be purchased through Barnes and Noble on campus. Honor and Veteran cords will be distributed to eligible students at check-in. PTK cords will need picked up from Brad Merritt prior to the Commencement.

How long do the Commencement Ceremonies last?

The ceremony lasts approximately an hour and a half, 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. There will be a limited number of wheelchairs available for guests to use. They are on a first come first served basis.

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

No. Washington State Community College will be taking photographs for the college website, however there is no guarantee that each graduate will be photographed. A designated photo area for family 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.

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