

Graduation Rehearsal

Script

Thursday, May 18, 2023, at 4:00 pm

- **Graduation is Tuesday, May 23, 2022 at Ameris Bank Amphitheater at 7:30pm.**
- **Before you leave home, make sure you have:**
 - Your Graduation Number
 - Cap, Gown, Cambridge Stole, any earned Honor Cords. Note that only approved National and service organizations and academic cords or stoles will be allowed.
- **What to wear, proper attire for graduates:**
 - Collared shirt, tie, dress slacks, dress shoes, blouse and skirt, or dress.
 - Your tassel will be on the right side.
- **What not to wear:**
 - High heels are not recommended based on the stairs the graduates will use to access and exit the stage during the ceremony. We also have a long processional, up to the back of the theater and down stairs.
 - Graduation is a dignified ceremony; we will not allow decorated hats or other adornments.
- **Arrival – Please be on time!**
 - Arrive at the security checkpoint at 6:15pm. You will not be able to enter before that time. You must be in the graduation holding area by 6:30pm.
 - There is construction and lane closures all around Ameris – give yourself an extra 10-15 minutes to deal with the traffic. Also, parents will start arriving in different lots. There will be LOTS of traffic. You MUST get here on time to get lined up and in the procession.
 - Park in Lot C (11450 Maxwell Rd.)
 - You will exit the parking lot and continue down the road to the security checkpoint. We will have staff pointing you in the right direction.
 - The walk from the parking lot to the security checkpoint will take a few minutes; please plan accordingly.

- Leave purses or bags at home or with family. There will not be a secure place to keep them during the ceremony.
- Please ensure your phone is silenced once you reach graduation.
- **Security Checkpoint:**
 - At the security checkpoint any bag you do bring will be searched (recommend you leave them at home or with a family member).
 - No open containers will be allowed. We will have water for all graduates in the holding area.
 - NO ALCOHOL – before, during the ceremony. You WILL NOT WALK. Your diploma and final transcript will be held until discipline can be decided.
- **Holding tent:**
 - You will line up in groups based on your graduation ID. Please look for your number on the signs our group leaders will be holding.
 - You will receive your name card in the holding tent – hold on to your card!
 - Once you are lined up, remain in this order for the procession to your seats.
 - Bathrooms are in the West Plaza. There will be staff there to make sure you get in and get out quickly – please use the bathroom BEFORE you come.
- **Ceremony:**
 - Parents will park in Lot A (1775 Founders Parkway). The lot and gates will open at 6:30 pm.
 - Tickets are required, and you will receive your ticket package after our rehearsal.
 - You will sit with the people you are sitting with now (or very close) during the ceremony.
 - You will process to your seats from the back loading dock area, to the back of the theater, down the stairs, and enter the seats.
- **Reading of the Names / Diploma Covers:**
 - Coach Broadwell and Ms. Von Bereghy will let you know when it is time for your row to rise and come up on stage to have your name read and receive your diploma cover.

- While you are waiting, please respect the graduates who have their names read before and after your turn. We want to ensure that everyone, including their parents, can hear their graduate's name being read.
 - We will be walking from the East side so everyone will be exiting to your right.
 - To do that, we will be taking all the A rows first, starting with the front row, then going every other row to the back of the house, then back down, taking the B rows to the front – so the second row, you will be the last row to cross the stage.
 - You can tell your parent that we will call names alphabetically – not necessarily from where you are sitting!
 - Make sure you have your name card when you approach the stage where your counselor will greet you.
 - Make sure your tassel is on the right side, and your gown is zipped up.
 - Stage – watch your pace.
 - I will hand you your diploma, I will not be shaking hands.
 - Pictures (candid) will be taken while you receive your diploma.
 - You will exit the stage and go to a picture station.
- **After the ceremony:**
 - Please remain in your seat until your row is given the signal to stand up.
 - We will recess the same way you came into the theater, but you will stop about halfway up where the boxes are, take a left or a right, out into the East and West Plaza. If you are in A rows (Grad ID 1 – 249), you will be directed to the West Plaza (your right facing the audience), and if you are in B rows (Grad ID 250 – 502) to the East Plaza.
 - Please stay in line as you recess (do not break away to great family or friends – you will have time to do that later) and go directly to the tables that will have your diploma.
 - You will have 15 minutes to retrieve your diploma; once you have it, find your family and begin clearing the venue.