

I MADE IT HAPPEN AT PHOENIX COLLEGE

2019 COMMENCEMENT



PHOENIX COLLEGE
A MARICOPA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Phoenix College 2019 Commencement Fact Sheet

Helpful information to know for your Phoenix College 2019 Commencement ceremony.

Location

The 2019 Phoenix College Commencement will be held on May 10, 2019, at the Grand Canyon University Arena, 3300 W. Camelback Road beginning at 7:00 p.m. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. for both graduates and guests.

Balloons, air horns, and strollers are not allowed in the Arena, there will be security scanners at the main entrance. Although there will be a small stroller parking area available at the main entrance, stroller usage is discouraged due to space limitations.

Outside food and beverages are not allowed in the Arena, unless medically necessary, with the exception of sealed bottled water. Bottled water will be available for all graduating students at check-in, and concessions will be open for guest purchases.

Travel time varies based on your location in the Valley. Remember to allow time to park on campus and entrance into the Arena. The following are estimated commute times to the campus, not including parking time or rush hour traffic delays:

- Coming from East Valley (Mesa, Gilbert, Chandler) - 45 minutes to an hour.
- Coming from NE Valley (Scottsdale) - 30 to 45 minutes.
- Coming from West Valley - 20 minutes.

It is recommended to check traffic and construction information at az511.gov or by calling 888-411-ROAD (7623). Please allow time for parking and entrance into the Arena.

See attached alternate route to 29th Avenue parking garage.

Cap and Gown

All commencement participants are required to pay the \$25 participation fee and wear the official regalia for the commencement ceremony.

Students are required to wear caps, gowns and tassels when participating in the Commencement Ceremony. Your gown should be zipped at all times during the ceremony. Place the cap on your head so the point is in the front, about 1 inch above the eyebrows. Your mortarboard should be worn level on your head with your graduation tassel on the right side. When you have received your diploma, you can flip your tassel to the left side!

Ticketing

Free tickets will be required for guest attending the ceremony. More information about how many tickets per graduate will be shared soon on the commencement website at www.phoenixcollege.edu/become-a-student/admissions-and-records/commencement. No guest will be allowed into the Arena without a ticket.

Parking

The 29th Avenue garage will be available for graduates and guests. Traffic control officers will direct traffic to the appropriate garage as capacity allows upon arrival. Please plan accordingly to arrive on time due to rush hour traffic and the distance from the parking structure to the Arena. Handicapped parking is available. Limited shuttle service will be available from the parking garage. Please see the map provided for more information.

Assembly Area

All graduates should check-in wearing their academic regalia no later than 6:30 p.m. Graduates and their guests enter the Arena at the main entrance. After passing through the security scanners, graduates will be directed to the left.

You will be standing during the check-in process, which could be an extended period of time. Limited seating will be available. Please wear comfortable shoes.

Dressing and locker facilities will not be available at the Arena. Please leave all personal items with family or friends before checking in. Cell phones should be turned off during the commencement ceremony.

Problems at Check-In/Missing Regalia

If you encounter a problem at check-in or if you are missing a tassel or have a problem with your regalia, there will be a table near the check-in area to help you.

Portraits

GradImages Inc. will take “no obligation” portrait photographs during the ceremony. Photo cards will be given to you to complete at check-in. You will hand the photo card to the photographer before photos are taken.

Order photographs online at www.gradimages.com or call 800-261-2576.

Family and friends may take pictures **AFTER** the conclusion of the recessional march. Faculty, administrators, and staff will remain a few minutes for pictures.

Commencement Programs/Live Video Streaming

Each graduate will receive a printed commencement program. Additional programs can be retrieved online. A link will be provided on the graduation web site to view live video streaming of the commencement ceremony.

<https://www.phoenixcollege.edu/students/admissions/graduation>

Graduate Code of Conduct:

- Be respectful of other graduates/faculty/staff
- No smoking except in designated areas
- Cell phones must be silent or turned off
- No animals except for service animals
- No children in line or in graduate seating areas
- Be attentive and listen to instructions provided

Graduation March

The student processional will be led by two marshals. Candidates for degrees and certificates will enter the Arena floor in two lines. The tassel is to be worn on the **RIGHT** side of the cap until all degrees are conferred.

Both lines will proceed down the center aisle. Candidates in the left line will fill the rows to the left as you face the stage. Candidates in the right line will fill the seats to the right as you face the stage. The front rows will be filled first. Marshals will assist with the processional and seating. Be sure to fill every chair in each row.

Upon entering the seating area, candidates should remain standing until the processional and national anthem are completed. Men should remove their caps for the national anthem. After the national anthem, you may be seated. The commencement program will follow.

Conferring of Degrees and Certificates

President Johnson will say, “Candidates please begin moving toward the stage to receive your diplomas and certificates.” You will be instructed to stand. Once the candidates have been presented, the roll call of candidates will begin. Only the first row, on both the right and left sides, is to remain standing. All others should be seated until signaled by the marshals to stand and move toward the stage.

As the roll call begins, the first row (both right and left sides) should proceed to the right side of the stage. A marshal will direct the second row (both right and left) to rise and proceed to the stage in the same direction.

The readers will read one name from the line. The students will proceed across the stage to the left and will return to their seat..

Approaching the Stage

As you reach the top of the stage, the GradImages card will be given to GradImages staff, and the name card to the reader at the podium. Your name will be read as you are handed the diploma cover. Proceed towards representative who will extend their hand for a handshake.

Returning to Your Seat

Proceed down the center stairs to return to your row and chair. Please fill each seat. **As a courtesy to all participants, graduates are expected to stay for the entire ceremony.** There will be a gathering area outside the Arena for pictures and snacks for the graduates.

Moving the Tassel

After all graduates cross the stage and return to the seating area, President Johnson will ask the graduates to stand and change their tassel from the right side to the left side.

Exit March

The exit march will begin with the platform party, followed by faculty/staff, and ending with graduates. When the recessional music begins, wait until the marshals prompt you to march out. You will exit down the center aisle, continue through the lobby to the area designated outside the Arena. Please have a pre-established meeting area for family and friends outside of the Arena.

MARICOPA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

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The Maricopa County Community College District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs or activities. For Title IX/504 concerns, call the following number to reach the appointed coordinator: (480) 731-8499. For additional information, as well as a listing of all coordinators within the Maricopa College system, visit: www.maricopa.edu/non-discrimination.