



2024 Commencement Ceremony Information Sheet

Adventist Health Arena (Stockton Arena)
248 W. Fremont Stockton Ca, 95203 · (209) 373-1400

Dear Delta Graduates,

Following are important details about Delta College's Commencement ceremony on May 16, 2024 at the Adventist Health Arena (formerly known as Stockton Arena). Please read this document closely and email info@deltacollege.edu with any questions. Also, don't forget to [apply for graduation](#) by April 12, 2024, which is required to participate in Commencement. Congratulations and we look forward to seeing you soon!

1. Important security information

All graduates and guests entering the arena will pass through security checkpoints. **No bags or purses of ANY SIZE are allowed**, and all items brought into the arena venue are subject to inspection.

- **NOT ALLOWED:** Bags, purses, bottles or cans, food coolers, outside food/beverages, strollers, frisbees and beach balls, laser pointers, any noise making devices (i.e. air horns, whistles, drums, etc.), fireworks, illegal drugs and alcohol, audio/video recording devices, weapons and dangerous devices of any kind, balloons, selfie sticks, camelbaks, e-cigarettes, backpacks & duffle bags, large bags/purses, and any other items deemed unacceptable by the arena management. The Adventist Health Arena does not allow pets inside the facility.
- **ALLOWED:**
 - i. Certified service animals, wearing their service apparel
 - ii. Baby food
 - iii. Diaper bags and medical bags on a case-by-case basis

2. Rehearsal – Wednesday, May 15, 2024, 3:30pm. *Do Not Be Late*

Graduates are highly encouraged to be present at rehearsal so that the ceremony proceeds smoothly. You must also attend rehearsal in order to obtain two extra Commencement tickets for your guests (in addition to the six tickets you will receive at the Bookstore when you pick up your regalia). **For rehearsal, arrive at the Adventist Health Arena by 3:00 p.m.; please do not be late!** Caps and gowns are not necessary at rehearsal. Parking is free for rehearsal and \$15 on the day of Commencement. See [Parking Information & Map](#) for further details. Please do not bring family members or friends to rehearsal.

3. Commencement Ceremony – Thursday, May 16, 2024

We encourage you to eat at least a light meal before arriving at the arena. Graduates must arrive in caps and gowns at the Adventist Health Arena by **4:15 p.m.** and enter through the SOUTH DOORS (the same doors used at rehearsal). Family and friends are not allowed in the graduate staging area. The processional for graduates will begin at **5:45 p.m.** and the Commencement ceremony will begin **promptly at 6:00 p.m.** Graduates are expected to remain until released at the close of the ceremony at approximately 8:00 p.m.

Remember!

- a. **Do Not Be Late** - Late students will be placed at the end of the line.
- b. **Personal Property** - You will not be returning to the graduate assembly area, so do not leave any items there. Bags and purses are not allowed in the arena. We are not responsible for lost or stolen property.
- c. **Caps and Gowns** - Caps should be worn level and straight, with tassels to the right. Gowns should be zipped up. Honors regalia should be worn by any students eligible for honors. (See *information under #4*).
- d. **Interpreter Services** will be available for deaf students, faculty, and guests.
- e. **Mobility Assistance** - Graduates who need mobility assistance can contact Mobility Services Specialist Roy Juarez at (209) 954-5078. Assistance will be available for graduates at the rehearsal and on the evening of Commencement.
- f. **Recessional** - At the close of the ceremony, the Platform Party (college dignitaries) will exit first, followed by the faculty. Please remain standing at your seat while faculty are recessing. Graduates will follow usher directions and exit out of the arena to meet up with their guests.

4. **Caps and gowns**

Starting in late April or early May, you will be able to purchase your cap, gown, and tassel at the Delta College Bookstore or order online at bookstore.deltacollege.edu/home. **The College will announce when caps and gowns are available; please do not come to the Bookstore until you have received that announcement.** When you come to the Bookstore, you will also be able to pick up six Commencement tickets for your guests. Bookstore hours are Monday-Thursday from 7:45 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and Friday from 7:45 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Closed weekends. Phone (209) 954-5086.

5. **Filling out a name card**

Graduates participating in Commencement will need to check in at the grad tables in the Arena. Staff will provide directions regarding where to line up and fill out a reader card for your name to be called out.

6. **Parking**

There is no cost for parking on the day of rehearsal. Parking will be \$15 on the day of Commencement. See [Parking Information & Map](#) for further details. Street parking is free. The City of Stockton parking fee is \$15 per vehicle in the West Fremont Street parking lot (across the street from the Stockton Ballpark), and in the parking garage (adjacent to the Arena). We encourage you to consider carpooling. Parking lots open at 4:00 p.m. Please do not park in the Stockton Ballpark parking lot.

7. **Tickets**

Tickets are required for guests at the Commencement ceremony. You can get up to six (6) tickets for your guests when you pick up your cap and gown at the Delta College Bookstore. You can obtain an additional two (2) tickets by attending rehearsal. Tickets are not required for children under the age of 2 years if children are held on the lap of an accompanying adult. Strollers are prohibited. Graduates do not need a ticket for entry. Please do not attempt to sell, purchase, or exchange tickets.

8. **Guests**

Doors will open promptly at 4:30 p.m. and seating is first-come, first-served. Guests should be seated no later than 5:30 p.m. The processional for graduates will begin at 5:45 p.m. and the Commencement ceremony will begin promptly at 6:00 p.m. Guests will not be able to see the graduates in advance of the ceremony. Graduates and guests should decide in advance on a place to meet outside after the ceremony.

9. **Special seating/mobility assistance for ADA guests**

Guests should request assistance from one of the ushers as they enter the arena.

10. **Concessions**

Food and beverages will be available for purchase in the arena from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 pm. No outside food or beverages are permitted in the arena.

11. **Flowers**

Flowers can be brought into the arena. Flowers can also be purchased in the lobby. Proceeds are donated to a student scholarship fund.

12. **Photos**

Professional photography will be provided by Grad Images. Individual photographs will be taken of graduates by the ramps and before they get on stage. A photo package will be offered for sale to each graduate after Commencement. Proofs can be viewed at www.gradimages.com. A link will be on Delta's website at www.deltacollege.edu/commencement after graduation.

Photographs may be taken by family and friends from the seating areas only. Although cell phone and small hand-held video cameras will be allowed, no tripods or cords are allowed. (See information under #1)

13. **Diplomas**

Graduates will not receive their actual diplomas at the ceremony. Official diplomas will be mailed to graduates after all eligibility requirements have been verified. At Commencement, graduates will receive a congratulatory scroll.

14. **Honors and tassel colors**

Graduation honors levels are determined by cumulative grade point average (GPA). GPA computation for graduation with honors and other awards uses all course work. The designation is reflected on each student's transcript and diploma. (4.00–Highest Honors, 3.70–3.99 High Honors, 3.30–3.69 Honors, 3.00–3.29 Honorable Mention).

- a. If you are a Summer 2023 graduate, your cumulative grade point average (GPA) at the end of the Summer 2023 semester determines the tassel color.
- b. If you are a Fall 2023 graduate or Spring 2024 candidate, the tassel color is determined by

your cumulative GPA at the end of the Fall 2023 semester, including all AA/AS applicable courses from other colleges. Fall 2023 GPA is used as the determining criteria *even if grades for Spring 2024 are posted before the Commencement ceremony*. **No exceptions**. If you were granted special permission to walk as a candidate, you will receive a black tassel regardless of your GPA.

- c. When you pick up your cap, gown, and tassel, your GPA will be available at the Bookstore and will determine your tassel color as follows:
 - i. Graduates with a GPA of 3.50-4.00 receive a gold and black tassel.
 - ii. Graduates with a GPA of 3.00-3.49 receive a silver and black tassel.
 - iii. Graduates with a GPA below 3.00 receive a black tassel.

15. Special celebrations

Some Delta College programs host what we refer to as special celebrations at the end of the academic year. These celebrations are not to be confused with Commencement itself. Both the special ceremonies and Commencement are optional; you can attend one or both if you like. However, if you believe you have satisfied the requirements for a degree, you **must** [apply for that degree](#) no later than April 12, 2024. If you fail to apply before that deadline, you will not receive a degree and you will not be eligible to participate in Commencement.

16. COVID-19

If you are sick or have been experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, please stay home and do not attend the ceremony.

More questions? Email info@deltacollege.edu. Don't forget to check the Commencement website regularly for additional updates at www.deltacollege.edu/commencement.