

GRADUATION COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY MAY 13, 2017

McMurry University
Kimbrell Arena

10:00am
(doors open for guests 9:00am)



Information for 2017 MAY / AUG Candidates for Graduation

Attendance at Commencement (Graduation) Events

(these events are detailed on page 3 of this document)

All candidates are required to be present for Commencement events.

Graduating *in Absentia*

If it is impossible for you to participate, you must email or write to the Vice President for Academic Affairs for permission to graduate *in absentia*. No diploma will be released to any candidate who does not attend the Rehearsal, Baccalaureate Service, or Commencement, unless prior written permission is received from the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Requests to graduate in absentia should be directed to:

Dr. James Hunt
Vice President for Academic Affairs
1 McMurry University Box 157
Abilene TX 79697
hunt.james@mcm.edu

Cap / Gown & Graduation Announcements

Each graduate is responsible for obtaining the approved academic regalia from the McMurry University Bookstore in the Garrison Campus Center (325-793-4832). Announcements are not required, but can be ordered through Balfour at www.balfourcollege.com or by calling 1.877.225.3687.



Pictures

A professional photographer has been contracted to take your picture as you cross the stage. Please inform your guests that pictures without flash may be taken from their seats only. We ask that guests do not enter the aisles to take pictures due to space and safety limitations. The order form will be emailed at a later time, as well as be available on the McMurry website.

Ceremony Decorum

The McMurry University Commencement ceremony is the formal recognition by the University of your achievement as a student. Please remember that any unwarranted personal celebrations during the ceremony are inappropriate. Please ask your guests to celebrate with you following the ceremony in such a way that will not detract from the dignity of the day.



Policy for wearing Cap and Gown at

Rehearsal, Baccalaureate, & Commencement ceremony:

1. **STOLES, HOODS, CORDS**

- a) Only ACADEMIC cords or honor hood provided by McMurry University can be worn with the gown.
- b) NO individual stoles or other adornments or decorations allowed on or with the gown.
- c) **Approved academic cords and/or honor hood:**
 - Nursing candidates may wear the pin awarded at the Pinning Ceremony.
 - Students graduating with honors may wear the cord and/or hood awarded by McMurry.
 - Students who are members of Alpha Chi or nationally recognized departmental honor societies may wear the society cords.

2. **CAPS**

- a) Writing or drawing on **TOP ONLY** of the cap is allowed.
- b) The following is NOT allowed:
 - No attachments to or protrusions from the cap or tassel.
 - No writing or drawing on sides or back of the cap.
 - Nothing of any kind deemed to be over the line of good taste.
- c) Failure to adhere to this policy will result in a new cap and the cost added to your charges with the University.

Cords for Academic National Honor Societies

Students who are members of nationally recognized academic honor societies are allowed to wear honor cords as part of their academic regalia.

Candidates should contact their society's sponsor to obtain the appropriate cord.

(The Registrar's office does not have cords for academic honor societies.)

Cords for Latin Academic Honors

Latin Honor Cords will be provided for students graduating Summa Cum Laude, Magna Cum Laude, or Cum Laude, and will be given to you by the Registrar's office upon completing and returning the forms and survey (which will be sent in a separate email). Latin Honors require a GPA of 3.5 or higher and completion of a minimum 57 hours at McMurry University.



AUGUST Graduation Candidates

If your coursework will be completed in May Term or Summer 2017, you are a candidate for graduation in August 2017.

In order to participate (“walk”) in the May commencement ceremonies:

You must be enrolled by April 18 in all remaining courses for May Term, Summer I or II. If you are not able to accomplish this, contact the Registrar at 793.3808 right away.

GRADUATION EVENTS

ATTENDANCE REQUIRED AT THE FOLLOWING TIMES

(or approval from the VPAA to graduate in absentia)

1. **COMMENCEMENT REHEARSAL** (WEAR CAP & GOWN)
Kimbrell Arena, McMurry University. 4:00 pm, Friday, May 12, 2017.

Dress: Cap and Gown and approved Honor Cords

- **Men:** Dark slacks, shoes and socks are recommended. Dress shirt with collar and a tie look really nice.
- **Ladies:** Dress or dark slacks and shoes are recommended. (Tip for the ladies: bobby pins for the caps help greatly, and shoes that don't slip are recommended.)
[**See Baccalaureate section below for note concerning shoes]
- **Suggestion:** The tassel falls off easily. It helps to wrap the cord around the button a couple of times.

2. **BACCALAUREATE** (WEAR CAP & GOWN)
Aldersgate United Methodist Church. Friday, May 12, 2017.

Dress: Cap and Gown (as previously described)

Graduates have a tradition of processing across campus from the commencement rehearsal site to Aldersgate. We will leave Kimbrell Arena at 5:00 p.m, followed by a processional into the sanctuary. [** Please wear shoes that work well with cap/gown attire and that you will be able to walk in for this distance].

Baccalaureate is an important part of the McMurry experience, and attendees should conduct themselves with proper decorum. Your parents and guests are encouraged to attend! The service begins at 5:30 and is approximately one hour in length.

Note: Only graduate candidates participate in the processional and sit in the candidate section. Please make arrangements for children and other family/friends to sit elsewhere in the audience.

3. **COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY** (WEAR CAP & GOWN)
Kimbrell Arena, McMurry. Saturday, May 13, 2017.

9:00 am - MABEE ROOM -- Line-up for the processional.

10:00 am - Commencement – we will process together to Kimbrell Arena.

Dress: Cap and Gown as previously described

(No facilities will be available to store purses or other valuables. Ladies, make other arrangements for your purse. No items are carried in the processional and into the ceremony.)

