



March 8, 2021

Dear May and August 2021 Candidates for Graduation:

The safety and well-being of you and your family and friends, as well as our faculty and staff, remains a top priority for McMurry University. Even though the state of Texas has lifted the mask mandate, McMurry is continuing the same Covid protocols that have been in place throughout this spring semester. All attendees at the graduation ceremony on either May 7, or May 8, will be required to wear a mask and maintain social distancing. Temperatures may also be taken at the door as you enter.

The following information will provide details concerning the day, time, method, and expectations for your particular group of students. The ceremony for **Group I will be held on Saturday, May 8**, and **includes the majority of students**. This group will participate in a “rolling” graduation ceremony, which is explained fully in the Group I section below. Groups II and III include students who are graduating from the Honors Program and/or earning Departmental Honors, and graduate students earning a Master’s degree. The ceremony for **Groups II and III will be held on Friday, May 7**. Both the Friday and Saturday ceremonies will be held in Kimbrell Arena in the Hunt P.E. building.

Please read carefully and follow the guidelines for your graduating group of students.

**Group I**  
**CANDIDATES for GRADUATION**  
**Saturday, May 8, 2021**  
**Kimbrell Arena, Hunt P.E. Center**

Your rolling graduation ceremony provides you with an individual time of celebration and recognition for your academic accomplishment. Your name will be called as you cross the stage and receive your diploma cover from the president or vice-president. You will enjoy photo opportunities and expressions of congratulations from your guests and all others in the arena at the same time.

You are allotted up to 9 guests and all will need a ticket. There is no formal ceremony as this will be a *walk and stand* experience for you and your guests. Seating will not be provided. It is expected to take only a few minutes from the time you and your guests enter the building to the time you exit.

The following provides detailed information regarding the rolling graduation experience and the guidelines for you and your guests.

## Group I

9:00 am	Last Name	A - E
10:00 am	Last Name	F - L
11:00 am	Last Name	M - R
12:00 pm	Last Name	S - Z

- Please arrive at Hunt P.E. Center **15 minutes prior to your designated time.**
- You and **all your guests** will need to enter the facility **at the same time.**
- You are allowed to invite a total of 9 guests. All guests of all ages must have a ticket.
- Masks and social distancing will be required for all attending. You may remove your mask for crossing the stage and while photos are taken.
- Arrive wearing your Cap, Gown, & Tassel ready to process shortly after check-in. Academic regalia can be purchased at the McMurry bookstore. Call the bookstore at 325-793-4830 if you have any questions.
  - CAP and GOWN Policy:
    - **GOWN:** Only **ACADEMIC** cords **provided by McMurry University** can be worn with the gown. Nursing graduates may wear the pin awarded at the Pinning Ceremony. Items associated with social clubs, non-academic organizations, individual stoles, adornments, or decorations cannot be worn on or with the gown.
    - **CAP:** Writing, drawing, decoration is allowed on the **TOP** of the cap. Anything deemed over the line of good taste will result in the replacement of the cap at the student's expense.
- Once inside, go immediately to the check-in table. You will be given a packet that includes your name card, your guest tickets, and cords (if any) for honors and academic societies for which you are a member. Cords are provided to the Registrar's office by the faculty sponsor of each society.
- Quickly put on any cords you receive and distribute tickets to your guests. You and your guests will then be directed to the appropriate location for processing towards the stage.
- Give your name card to the reader when you are the next in line for the stage.
- Your name will be read and you will then enter the stage area. Dr. Harper or Dr. Draud will hand you the diploma cover and your photo will be taken.
- Your guests then quickly move to the floor area just below where you are standing on the stage, and a photo will be taken of all your group together.
- You will then exit the stage and move to the hallway for another photo of you with your diploma cover.

- Your guests should exit the side door and wait for you outside while you are taking the photo in the hallway.
- You will then exit the side door of the gym and meet your guests outside. We ask that you leave in your vehicles as quickly as possible to allow parking space for the next group of students and guests who are arriving.
- You are encouraged to take pictures in other campus locations with your family and friends to add to the celebration of the day.

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## Group II

### UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM and DEPARTMENTAL HONORS

**Friday, May 7, 2021**

**The ceremony will begin at 3:30 pm, in Kimbrell Arena of the Hunt P.E. Center**

- Arrive at the Mabee Room by 2:45 pm, on Friday, May 7.
- Wear Cap, Gown, & Tassel. These can be purchased at the McMurry bookstore. Call the Bookstore at 325-793-4830 if you have any questions.
  - CAP and GOWN Policy:
    - GOWN: Only **ACADEMIC cords provided by McMurry University** can be worn with the gown. Nursing graduates may wear the pin awarded at the Pinning Ceremony. Items associated with social clubs, non-academic organizations, individual stoles, adornments, or decorations cannot be worn on or with the gown.
    - CAP: Writing, drawing, decoration is allowed on the TOP of the cap. Anything deemed over the line of good taste will result in the replacement of the cap at the student's expense.
- Check in upon arrival in the Mabee Room. You will receive cords for any Latin honors, and for academic societies for which you are a member. Cords are provided to the Registrar's office by the faculty sponsor of each society.
- Your honors hood will be provided at the ceremony and you will be hooded by your thesis professor before you cross the stage.
- We will have a brief time of instruction in the Mabee Room before processing to Hunt P.E. Center for the Commencement Ceremony.
- Masks and social distancing will be required for all attending. You may remove your mask for crossing the stage and while photos are taken.

- A photo will be taken as you cross the stage, and another one immediately after you exit the stage.
- You are allowed to invite a total of 9 guests. All guests of all ages must have a ticket. Your tickets will be mailed to you at the local address that you submit on the Graduation & Diploma Confirmation form, or you may pick them up at the Registrar’s office once they are available. Please make sure that your invited guests receive their ticket ahead of time and bring it with them to the ceremony.

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### **Group III**

#### **MASTER’S DEGREE**

**Friday, May 7, 2021**

**The ceremony will begin at 3:30 pm, in Kimbrell Arena of the Hunt P.E. Center.**

- Arrive at the Mabee Room by 2:45 pm, on Friday, May 7.
- Wear Cap, Gown, & Tassel. The master’s gown package can be ordered from the McMurry bookstore. Call Billy Utley, bookstore manager, at 325-793-4830 to order – he will need your name, phone number, and height. Be sure to indicate “master’s” gown.
- Your hood will be provided at the ceremony and you will be hooded on the stage.
- We will have a brief time of instruction in the Mabee Room before processing to Hunt P.E. Center for the Commencement Ceremony.
- You are allowed to invite a total of 9 guests. All guests of all ages must have a ticket. Your tickets will be mailed to you at the local address that you submit on the Graduation & Diploma Confirmation form, or you may pick them up from the Registrar’s office once they are available. Please make sure that your invited guests receive their ticket ahead of time and bring it with them to the ceremony.
- Masks and social distancing will be required for all attending. You may remove your mask for crossing the stage and while photos are taken.
- A photo will be taken as you cross the stage, and another one immediately after you exit the stage.

Congratulations on all you have accomplished! We’re looking forward to sharing this unique graduation experience with you. Please let me know if you have any questions.

This information will also be available on the McMurry website at  
<https://registrar.mcm.edu/commencement/index.html>

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