

Congratulations Class of 2023!

We hope the following “*Frequently Asked Questions*” will help answer all of your questions about graduation. For any other questions, please send us an email at:

graduationinfo@solano.edu

Don't forget to RSVP by the April 29 deadline! Check your school email. If you have not received an email to register on the MarchingOrder website, please first check your spam mailbox, and then mail us at: graduationinfo@solano.edu

****Please see Instructions on “What to do on the day of the event” at the end****

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the deadline to petition to graduate?

Students must have filed petitions for a degree or certificate with the Office of Admissions and Records by April 12, 2023. Contact the Office of Admissions and Records with any questions at admissions@solano.edu, or call 707-864-7171.

Is the ceremony in-person and where is the ceremony?

Yes. The 2023 Graduation Ceremony will be in-person and will be held on **Thursday, May 25, 2023, at 6:00 PM**, Doc Hollister Stadium, Fairfield Campus. 4000 Suisun Valley Road, Fairfield 94534

How do I know if I am graduating?

Students who filed their Spring 2023 petition for a degree and/or certificate are candidates for graduation. Approval of petitions is pending the receipt of Spring 2023 grades. Once you complete all graduation requirements, you will be notified by the Office of Admissions and Records.

May I still walk if I am missing a few classes?

Yes, students who filed their Spring 2023 petition by the April 12 deadline are included as candidates for degrees and certificates and will receive an email invitation to register for the ceremony from the registration website www.Marchingorder.com

I have not received an email invitation to register for the ceremony from Marchingorder.com, the registration website. What do I do?

Please check your spam mail for the email first. Then please contact us at: graduationinfo@solano.edu

I did not register for graduation on time, can I just show up?

Yes. If you received an email invitation to register for the ceremony but missed the April 29 deadline to submit your registration form, you can still attend the ceremony. You will receive a blank name card at Graduate Check-In on the day, which will be read by the card reader on the stage.

CAP & GOWNS

Where do I order my cap and gown?

Caps and gowns may be ordered online at the Bookstore website: <https://www.bkstr.com/solanostore/shop/graduation>. Students can purchase their graduation set which includes Cap, Gown, and Regular Tassel (Price \$48+tax). Students may also purchase their set at the Bookstore in the 1400 Building. Questions? Please contact 707-864-7111.

The Bookstore will have a pop-up tent at the ceremony with graduation regalia sets on sale on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Gowns are black and tassels are blue and white. If you are experiencing financial difficulty, please contact graduationinfo@solano.edu regarding a loaner cap and gown.

I ordered my cap & gown, where is it?

All online Bookstore orders will be processed after April 28.. There is limited availability through April 28, 2023. The Bookstore currently has limited stock available with more merchandise arriving after April 28.

Online orders will be delivered to your address (exception: no P.O. boxes) by Standard delivery (within 4- 7 days) or faster options. To ensure you receive your cap and gown in time, there is also free pick up at the Bookstore. For more info, please contact (707) 864-7111.

I missed the cap & gown deadline, what do I do?

The Bookstore does not have a deadline for regalia set purchases for students. You can still purchase your cap, gown, and tassel online or in-person at the bookstore. Please note that there is limited availability through April 28, 2023 with more sizes available after that date. The Bookstore will also have a pop-up tent at the ceremony with graduation regalia sets on sale.

Can I decorate my cap?

Yes. Grad caps can be decorated but please be respectful when doing so.

How do I obtain an honors stole or gold cord?

A stole is a sash-like garment worn by some graduates who are members of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society or programs such as the Puente Project and EOPS. Please contact your faculty advisor if you are a member for more information on stoles or gold cords.

I am a member of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK). Do I wear the red honor stole or the gold PTK stole?

PTK members may wear a gold PTK stole and tassel. Active PTK members will receive a gold PTK stole and have received notification from the PTK Advisor. All other PTK members may purchase graduation regalia on the PTK website at their cost. Go to: www.ptk.org

I am an EOPS student. Am I eligible to receive a cap and gown?

EOPS is providing graduates in the EOPS program with a cap, gown, and EOPS stole. Please contact eops@solano.edu for more information.

Can I order a class ring from the Bookstore?

No. The Bookstore does not offer class rings for sale.

Can I rent a cap & gown?

Unfortunately, the Bookstore does not provide rental regalia for student graduates. Please see above for instructions on how to purchase a cap and gown through the bookstore.

Where do I order graduation announcements?

Graduation Announcements may be ordered online at: <https://www.cbgrad.com/>

CEREMONY**Do I have to attend the ceremony?**

No. Attendance at the ceremony is voluntary.

Is there a rehearsal prior to the ceremony?

No. There will not be a rehearsal for graduating students prior to the ceremony.

Where do I park?

Parking is available in Lots 1, 3, and 5 on the south side and Lots 2, 4, and 6 on the north side of the Fairfield campus. Lots D and F are designated disabled parking.

Do I need to wear a cap & gown?

Yes, graduates need to wear a cap and gown to participate in the ceremony.

Do I have to attend the ceremony to receive my diploma?

No, attendance at the ceremony is optional. Diplomas will be mailed to students who have met graduation requirements in early August.

Do I need to be present for my name to be called?

Yes, you must be present for your name to be called.

How many guests may I bring to the ceremony?

We are asking graduates to observe a 5-guest limit. We would love to accommodate every graduate's request for more guests once all the graduates have registered and we have the seating capacity.

What time should I arrive for the ceremony?

Graduates should plan to arrive **90 minutes prior** to the ceremony which will begin promptly at 6:00 PM. Please consider time, traffic, and parking, and plan accordingly.

What time should my family show up?

Guests of graduates can show up any time after 4:30 PM and before 6:00 PM. However, they are encouraged to arrive in time to park, proceed to the stadium, and find stadium or guest seating.

Will there be ASL interpreters at the ceremony?

Yes, ASL interpretation will be available during the ceremony.

What if I need unique accommodations?

If you currently receive Accessibility Services from the ASC, please contact the office regarding your accommodation needs. If you do not currently receive services, please contact graduationinfo@solano.edu

How long will the ceremony be?

The ceremony starts promptly at 6:00 PM and will last approximately 2 hours.

What should I wear to the ceremony?

Please wear your cap and gown. We encourage you to wear comfortable shoes and dress warmly. You will be walking across a grassy field and the campus is known to be windy and cooler in the early evening.

What can my family, friends, and I bring to the ceremony?

For safety and security reasons, certain items are prohibited at the ceremony, such as balloons, air horns, silly string, and alcohol. Please leave all personal belongings in your car or with family members or friends. There are no provisions for coats, handbags or other valuable personal items.

Cell phones are permitted, but please turn off your ringer.

Will a person be able to purchase flowers at the ceremony?

For Flowers Preorder for Students and Families, you may go to: <https://www.thecommentgroup.com/solanocc/>

Flowers will also be available for purchase from a local vendor at the ceremony.

Where do I go to line up?

Solano College graduation coordinators and staff will direct graduates where to go once you enter the stadium.

Will my name be read out loud at the ceremony?

Yes. When you check in at the Stadium, you will be given a card with your name and a pre-printed scan-code. The card will be scanned when you walk across the stage, and your name will be read aloud. Please *do not lose, tear, or write on this card*, as this could result in your name not being announced as pre-recorded.

Can my child walk with me during the ceremony?

No. Guests are not allowed in the graduate seating area on the field.

Will I receive my diploma at the ceremony?

No, Spring 2023 diplomas will be mailed under separate cover from the Office of Admissions in early August. Graduating students who attend the ceremony will receive a diploma cover without a diploma.

Will photos or videos be taken?

Yes. A professional photographer will take your photograph during the ceremony. Free digital photos will be made available to you approximately 2 weeks after the ceremony. Guests are permitted to take photographs and video from the stands, but not on the field.

Can I leave after I walk across the stage?

No. Graduates will be guided back to their seats after receiving their diploma cover on stage and remain seated until all graduates' names are read. You will march off the field in the same manner you marched onto the field. Trustees and faculty will leave first followed by the graduates.

If I cannot attend the ceremony, will I be able to view it via live stream?

Yes. The graduation ceremony will be viewable online via livestream for those unable to attend. Livestream feed will be available via the Graduation home page at the ceremony's start time on May 25, 2023 at 6:00 PM. The livestream recording and the Graduation Program listing graduates and candidates and degrees and certificates will be also posted on the Graduation webpage:

<https://welcome.solano.edu/graduation/>

Where do I get a Commencement Program?

Commencement programs will be handed out at the ceremony.

A commencement program containing a full listing graduates and candidates and their degrees and certificates will be posted as a pdf. online at:

<https://welcome.solano.edu/graduation/>, along with the ceremony live stream, at the ceremony's start time on May 25, 2023.

If I am unable to attend the ceremony, how can I obtain a diploma cover?

Students may email graduationinfo@solano.edu to reserve a diploma cover.

Diploma covers will be available for in-person pick up on Mon.- Wed., May 24-26, 2023 from 10 AM – 1:00 PM to Room 433, Bldg. 400, or at a time to be arranged.

Are there pre-commencement activities?

Pre-commencement activities include:

- **Puente Celebration**, May 4, 6:30 – 8:30 PM. Contact: rebecca.lacount@solano.edu
- **CalWORKs Celebration (virtual)**, May 10, 2023, 4:00 – 5:00 PM

Contact priscilla.Jones-Foster@solano.edu

- **EOPS Celebration**, May 11, 2023, 5:00 PM. Contact: Alexandria.castaneda@solano.edu
- **Latinx Recognition Ceremony** hosted by the SCC Minority Coalition May 19, 2023, 6:00 – 8:30 PM, 1400 Building. For more information, contact michelle.arce@solano.edu or Amanda.morrison@solano.edu
- **Cosmetology Graduation**, May 23, 2023, 10:00 AM, 1400 Building
- **Black Recognition Ceremony** hosted by the SCC Minority Coalition May 20, 2023, 1:00 – 3:00 PM Ceremony, 3:00 – 4:30 PM Reception 1400 Bldg., Contact: shanan.danley@solano.edu or erika.black@solano.edu

What if my question isn't answered here?

Please email any questions to: graduationinfo@solano.edu

Instructions: What to Do the Day of the Event

- Graduates are REQUIRED to report to the football stadium **starting 4:30PM. . . NO LATER than 4:45PM SHARP**; to register for the event, complete a name card, and receive further instructions. College employees will be available to assist graduates with the process.
- Graduates should arrive wearing their graduation regalia (cap, gown, with tassel hanging from the front right side of cap). **Extra regalia / tassels will be available for purchase the day of the event on a first come first serve basis.**
- Due to the timing of the ceremony, there is no opportunity to leave the venue once you arrive.
- Parents, children, or guests **are not allowed** in the registration area.
Note: Children **may not participate** in the ceremony with the graduating parent.
- Graduates are encouraged to wear comfortable shoes and leave personal items at home or with family or friends as **there is not a place to stow your items - travel light.**
- Graduates will need to follow all instructions and will be asked not to stray or linger once lined up.
- Graduates will be seated in rows. No assigned seating for graduates.
- Graduates **will not** be permitted to leave the ceremony until the end.

- Please remind your family and friends they **are not to leave their seats** to approach graduates during the ceremony.
- **HAVE FUN**