

Graduation Guide

56th Annual Commencement Ceremony

Saturday,
May 13, 2023
10 a.m.



Lakeland
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Preparing For Graduation Day

Eligibility

To be eligible to graduate and receive your diploma, you should have already completed and submitted an online [application for graduation](#) (myLakeland login required). You are eligible to participate in the May 2023 commencement ceremony if you have fulfilled your requirements as of the fall 2022 semester or will potentially complete requirements in either spring semester 2023 or summer term 2023. If you have any questions regarding eligibility, please contact the counseling and advising center at 440.525.7200. Please note that participation in the commencement ceremony does not constitute the completion of graduation requirements.

Academic Regalia

A cap, gown and tassel are the official regalia that you must wear at commencement. The cost of these items is included in the fee paid with the graduation application and they are yours to keep. The cap and gown are both black in color. The tassel color(s) will correspond to the academic degree(s) you have earned.

Commencement Honors

If you attain a grade-point average (GPA) of 3.50 or higher through your last fully completed and graded semester, you will be recognized in the commencement program as graduating with honors. You will also receive a gold honors cord to wear at the ceremony. If you are eligible, the honors cord will be included with your regalia package.

Guest Tickets

You are entitled to receive up to six (6) guest tickets for the ceremony. Request your guest tickets in the 'Graduation Application' section of your myLakeland student account. Guest tickets are free and are required for admission. Fire Marshal regulations require that all guests, including children of any age, have a ticket. Additional tickets may be available upon request. **If you need additional tickets, please submit your request through the [graduation application](#) (myLakeland login required). If tickets are available, you will be contacted by May 1, 2023, via your Lakeland student email. Tickets will be allocated in the order the request was received.**

GradFest

GradFest is the one-stop shop for everything you need to participate in commencement. GradFest will be held **Monday, April 17 and Tuesday, April 18, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 4 to 6 p.m. in the A-Building atrium hallway outside the bookstore. Please bring your Lakeland student ID to pick up your academic regalia and commencement tickets for your guests.** At GradFest, you can also: purchase graduation announcements, diploma frames and alumni clothing; order a class ring; join the Lakeland Alumni & Friends Network; and meet with representatives from the counseling and advising center, career services and Holden University Center. Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) members can purchase their PTK regalia. You can qualify for a free official transcript just by attending GradFest. If you cannot make it to GradFest, you can pick up your regalia and guest tickets at the bookstore during regularly scheduled hours beginning April 19 through May 13.

Commencement Photographer

GradImages® is the official photographer for commencement. At the ceremony, a photo of you will be taken as you shake hands with a college official before exiting the stage. Please register online with GradImages to receive complimentary proofs shortly after commencement. You will also receive a discount offer just for pre-registering. Visit gradimages.com and click on Registration any time before commencement day.

Special Accommodations

If you require special assistance to participate in the commencement ceremony, please call the Lakeland Student Service Center (SSC) at 440.525.7050 no later than Friday, May 5, to make any necessary arrangements.

More Information

More information is available online at lakelandcc.edu/web/about/graduation.

Holden University Center Partnership Program Graduates

Candidates for graduation from the Holden University Center partnership programs are invited to participate in Lakeland Community College's 56th Annual Commencement Ceremony Saturday, May 13, 2023.

All Holden University Center candidates for graduation are to report to the Dr. Wayne L. Rodehorst Performing Arts Center in D-Building no later than 8:30 a.m. for complete instructions and to line up for the academic procession. Holden University Center candidates will be the last group of students in the procession. As a means of special recognition, Holden University Center candidates will be the final group to walk across the stage to receive a congratulatory certificate. Diplomas will be issued at a later date by the degree-granting institution. For more information, candidates should contact the registrar's office at their home institution.

Holden University Center candidates are entitled to receive up to six guest tickets. Guest tickets can be picked up at the Holden University Center (photo I.D. required) or mailed to participating partnership program graduates. If you have any questions regarding participation in Lakeland's commencement ceremony, would like more information on academic regalia, or require any special assistance to participate, contact Kristina Willey, senior director for the Holden University Center, at 440.525.7535 or email uc@lakelandcc.edu.

Guest tickets are free and required for admission into the tent. Fire Marshal regulations require every guest, including children of any age, to have a ticket. No one will be admitted into the tent without a ticket. There is no reserved seating.

On Graduation Day

Proper Attire Under Regalia

Commencement is a formal academic ceremony, so it is suggested that you wear comfortable business attire. Please do not wear sneakers, flip-flops, T-shirts, shorts or jeans. Remember to dress appropriately for the weather as the ceremony is held in an outdoor sheltered pavilion.

Parking and Shuttle Service

Parking is free. Follow orders of police officers who will be directing traffic. Directional signs will be posted on campus designating handicapped parking areas. Free shuttle bus service will be available to transport guests to and from the parking lots. Shuttle buses will be operating from approximately 8 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

Assembly of Graduates

As a candidate for graduation, you are to report to the Dr. Wayne L. Rodehorst Performing Arts Center in the D-Building **no later than 8:30 a.m. Saturday, May 13, dressed in your cap and gown**. You will receive complete instructions regarding participation in the ceremony at this time; there is no dress rehearsal. You will line up by tassel color for the processional that starts promptly at 9:30 a.m. You are not permitted to carry anything in your hands during the procession. A secured room will be provided for you to store any personal belongings for the duration of the ceremony.

Guest Seating

Your guests should plan to arrive between 8:30 and 9:30 a.m. and are required to present a ticket for admittance to the outdoor pavilion. All guest seating is in folding chairs on asphalt ground and there is no reserved seating. Guests requiring assistance can notify any member of the commencement staff or request help from a campus police officer.



Degrees Awarded at Commencement

The following academic degrees are awarded at commencement: Associate of Arts; Associate of Science; Associate of Applied Business; Associate of Applied Science; and Associate of Technical Studies. Certificate recipients and prospective certificate recipients do not participate in the commencement ceremony.

Order of Ceremony

1. Processional
2. Welcome
3. "Words of Reflection" by graduate speaker
4. Singing of the national anthem
5. Opening remarks by the college president
6. Remarks by the college board of trustees chair
7. Presentation of Distinguished Service Award to a member of the community
8. Commencement address by keynote speaker
9. Recognition of distinguished and honored graduates
10. Conferring of academic degrees and presentation of diploma covers: Associate of Arts; Associate of Science; Associate of Applied Business; Associate of Applied Science; Associate of Technical Studies
➤➤ Guests are NOT permitted to approach the stage to take photographs ◀◀
11. Recognition of Holden University Center partnership graduates
12. Closing remarks
13. "Words of Thanks" by graduate speaker
14. Singing of the Lakeland Alma Mater
15. Recessional

Commencement Livestreaming

The entire commencement ceremony will be streamed live and the video of the ceremony will be available to view online at lakelandcc.edu/commencement and on [Lakeland's official YouTube channel](#).

Hearing Impaired

An American Sign Language interpreter will be signing the ceremony from the left-hand side of the stage (when looking at the stage).

Photo Opportunities

You may return to the stage for photo opportunities after the commencement ceremony.

Severe Weather Protocol

Every reasonable effort will be made to hold commencement as planned, rain or shine, in the outdoor pavilion. In the event of severe weather (including lightning or wind gusts over 60 mph), the start of the ceremony may be delayed by up to two hours. If the weather clears and it is determined that it is safe for the ceremony to begin, commencement will take place in the outdoor pavilion. If after a two-hour delay there is no change to the severe weather forecast, the ceremony may be canceled. A weather delay or cancellation will be broadcast via text and/or email using Lakeland's Emergency Alert system, publicized on lakelandcc.edu, and posted on the Lakeland Emergency Hotline at 440.525.7242. If the ceremony is underway and is interrupted by severe weather, graduates and guests must follow instructions as announced.

After Graduation Day

Commencement Broadcast

The commencement ceremony will be broadcast on The Lakeland Network on Spectrum channel 1025 beginning the week of May 29, 2023. It will be online at lakelandcc.edu/commencement and also on [Lakeland's official YouTube channel](#).

Commencement Photographs

After graduation, proofs may be viewed at gradimages.com. Orders can be placed online or by phone at 1.800.261.2576. There is no obligation to purchase. Should you have questions, contact GradImages customer service at 1.800.261.2576 or via email at giservice@gradimages.com.

Diploma Distribution

During the commencement ceremony, a blank diploma cover will be presented to you. Your diploma and letter of congratulations can be picked up in the SSC on the first floor of the A-building. Fall 2022 diplomas are available now. Spring 2023 diplomas will be available for pick up six weeks after the end of spring semester. Summer 2023 diplomas can be picked up six weeks after the end of the summer term. Additional fees may apply for more than one degree, concentration, or certificate as well as any changes, including completion date, reprints or duplicates. If you have any questions concerning your diploma or academic records, please call Lakeland Enrollment Services at 440.525.7557.

Financial Obligations

You must settle all financial obligations (i.e., unpaid tuition) with the college upon completion of courses. The college is authorized to withhold diplomas and transcripts for any outstanding financial fees. To be sure that you have financial clearance upon completion of courses, please check with the Lakeland Cashier's Office at 440.525.7134.

More Information

More information is available online at lakelandcc.edu/commencement or you may call the SSC at 440.525.7050.

