



2021 HYBRID COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

Saturday, May 8, 2021

Raider Arena at Northwest Florida State College • Niceville, FL

Morning Ceremonies – Certificate, AAS, AS, & Bachelor Degree Graduates

Afternoon Ceremonies – AA Degree Graduates & Florida GED Students

RSVP to Participate in Commencement Ceremony

To ensure that your name is announced at the ceremony,
RSVP by May 3 at <http://www.nwfsc.edu/Students/Enrollment/Graduation/Commencement>.

*Only the students who participate in a commencement ceremony will receive
a Northwest Florida State College Commemorative Medallion.*

HYBRID CEREMONY

In efforts to create a safe and memorable commencement experience for our Raider graduates and their families, the 56th Commencement Ceremony will be partially virtual with an in-person experience. All 2021 graduates will receive a pre-recorded message from President Stephenson and the keynote speaker. In-person commencement ceremonies and conferring of credentials will take place throughout the day on May 8th as defined below. Please attend during your assigned time to ensure the day runs smoothly.

CEREMONY TIME	GRADUATES
9:00 a.m.	2020 Ceremony Graduates
9:30 a.m.	Certificates – College Credit and Vocational
10:00 a.m.	AAS and AS
10:30 a.m.	BAS
11:00 a.m.	BSN and BSE
12:30 p.m.	AA degree: Last Name A-C
1:00 p.m.	AA degree: Last Name D-F
1:30 p.m.	AA degree: Last Name G-I
2:00 p.m.	AA degree: Last Name J-L
2:30 p.m.	AA degree: Last Name M-O
3:00 p.m.	AA degree: Last Name P-R
3:30 p.m.	AA degree: Last Name S-U
4:00 p.m.	AA degree: Last Name V-Z and Florida GED Students

REGALIA

Regalia is available for purchase in person at the Niceville Barnes & Noble College Bookstore and at www.nwfsc.shopoakhalli.com until April 22. After April 22, please visit the Niceville Barnes & Noble bookstore, and be advised a late fee will be added to purchases after May 3.

- Full academic regalia (cap, gown, tassel, baccalaureate stole) is required for participation.
- Baccalaureate stoles MUST be worn and can be purchased for an additional fee.
- You must present your Student ID Card to pick up regalia.
- Store Hours: Monday - Friday..... 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
- Extra tassels are available for purchase. Regalia ordered online will come with a 2021 tassel; this can be traded for a 2020 tassel in-store or at commencement check-in.
- Borrowed regalia is not permitted.

For more information please contact the Barnes and Noble College Bookstore at (850) 729-5384.

HONOR STUDENTS

Honor cords are provided by the College and are distributed during check-in. Questions? Contact a Student Success Navigator 850-502-2895.

Honors for students include:

- Gold Cords (Summa Cum Laude & Highest Honors) 4.0 cumulative GPA
- Silver Cords (Magna Cum Laude & High Honors) 3.80-3.99 cumulative GPA
- Red Cords (Cum Laude & Honors) 3.50-3.79 cumulative GPA
- Red, White & Blue Cords-Active Duty or Veterans

Note spring graduates—Fall GPA is used since spring grades are not posted until after the Ceremony. Should a student's honor status change after final grades post, the diploma will reflect the final honors status.

PHOTOGRAPHS

- Professional photos will be taken of each graduate as they cross the stage and a proof will be sent to each graduate for possible purchase.
- In the interest of safety, and keeping aisles open, **all photos taken by guests must be taken from their seats. Hand-held video cameras are allowed - but no tripods.**

CONTACT PHONE NUMBERS

Student Success Navigators850-502-2895
Accommodations Resource Center850-729-6079
Barnes & Noble College Bookstore: Niceville850-729-5384

PHI THETA KAPPA STOLES/TASSELS

PTK members who intend to graduate and wear the PTK stole and tassel must contact Dr. Elizabeth Ponder Melick prior to April 16, 2021 to be cleared as a member in good standing who is eligible to wear the PTK honor regalia, and have the PTK designation on their **final transcript**. **This designation will not be added to the transcript unless PTK members follow these instructions.**

REMEMBER: PTK members are responsible for purchasing their stole and tassel prior to the Ceremony. These are **not** given out by the College Bookstore. These can be purchased from the PTK national organization at www.ptk.org/store/graduation.

PTK Sponsor: Dr. Elizabeth Ponder Melick
E-mail: ponderme@nwfsc.edu

2021 HYBRID COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY, CONTINUED

CHECK-IN AND CEREMONY

- Arrive dressed in cap and gown, **no later** than 30 minutes prior to the start of your Ceremony.
- Wear cap with tassel on right side before Ceremony.
- Report to check-in table inside the Raider Room.
- **Only graduates will be permitted to enter the Check-In Area. Guests need to proceed directly to the Main Entrance.**
- Pick up your *white card* from a member of Student Success at check-in. This card is key to the Commencement Ceremony. It serves the following purposes:
 - 1) Gives your name and home address to the photographer, so you receive proofs of your photos and;
 - 2) Provides your name to the announcer for individual recognition on stage (hand the card to the announcer as you step onto the stage).

GUESTS

- Raider Guests may enter the Arena up to 30 minutes prior to their graduate's assigned ceremony time. Please remember to be quiet and respectful of those participating in the ceremony prior.
- No tickets are required. Seating is open, on a first-come-first served basis in general admission seating, Sections F, G and H.
- Seating for guests with disabilities is available, again on a first-come-first-served basis. Contact our Accommodation Resource Center at 850-729-6079, if special accommodations are required.

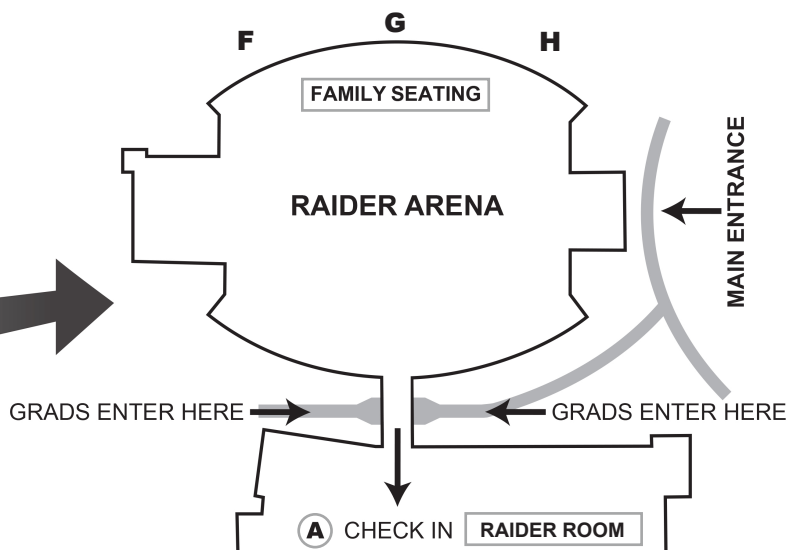
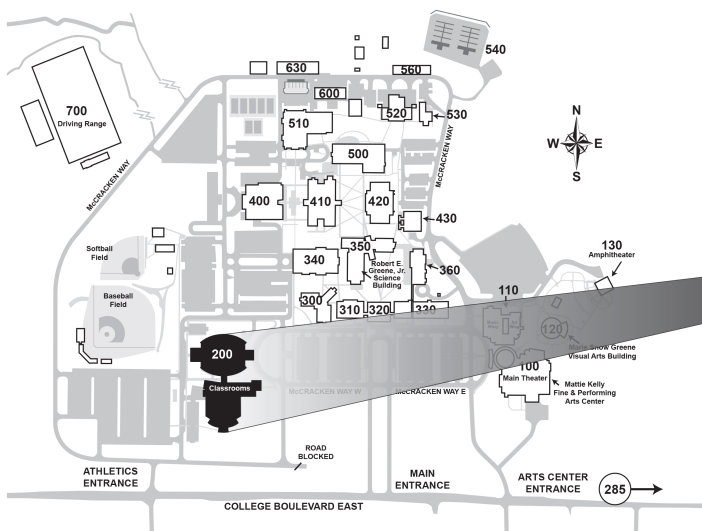
PARKING

- Large lots north and west of the Arena with additional parking east of the Arena at NWF State College.
- Graduates, remember to allow yourself time to park and get to Raider Arena check-in **no later than 30 minutes prior to the start of your Ceremony.**

CEREMONY ETIQUETTE

- Graduates arrive **no later** than 30 minutes prior to the start of your assigned ceremony time.
- Proper behavior/courtesy is important for this special occasion.
- Only Graduates will be permitted to enter the check-in area. Guests need to proceed directly to Raider Arena.
- When you receive your diploma and exit to find your family, please do so as quietly as possible so as not to disturb other families whose graduate has not yet been recognized.
- Please feel free to take photos and fellowship outside of the Arena.

RAIDER ARENA at NWF STATE COLLEGE – NICEVILLE CAMPUS



On-time arrival for commencement ceremonies is critical since no rehearsal takes place prior to the ceremonies.

GRADUATES:

STEP 1 – NO SECURE PLACE IS AVAILABLE FOR PERSONAL VALUABLES (HANDBAG, KEYS, ETC.). DO NOT BRING THESE ITEMS WITH YOU TO THE CEREMONY. BE SURE TO BRING YOUR REGALIA (CAP, GOWN & TASSEL).

STEP 2 – REPORT TO THE CHECK-IN AT POINT (A) IN THE BREEZEWAY ENTRANCE TO THE RAIDER CLUB.



**NORTHWEST FLORIDA
STATE COLLEGE**

100 College Boulevard E., Niceville, FL 32578

www.nwfsc.edu

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