

2018 COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

NORTHWEST
FLORIDA
STATE COLLEGE

Saturday, May 5, 2018

The Arena at Northwest Florida State College • Niceville, FL

10:00 a.m. Ceremony – Certificate, AAS, AS, & Bachelor Degree Graduates

2:00 p.m. Ceremony – AA Degree & Florida GED Students

AutoGrad and Ceremony Participation

Northwest Florida State College automatically awards the credential for which a student has met all requirements (Diploma, Certificate, Associate in Arts, Associate in Applied Science, Associate in Science and Bachelor Degree Programs). Please monitor your student email account for communications from the Office of Academic Records & Enrollment regarding the AutoGrad process and how to opt-out, to RSVP for the ceremony and update your diploma mailing address.

Please note that only the students who participate in a commencement ceremony will receive the 2018 Northwest Florida State College Commemorative Medallion.

CEREMONY

10:00 a.m. Ceremony

- Graduates of Certificate, Associate of Applied Science (AAS), Associate in Science (AS) and Bachelor Degree Programs (BAS, BSN, BSE).

2:00 p.m. Ceremony

- Graduates of Associate in Arts (AA) & Florida High School Diploma (GED).

REGALIA

Regalia is available for purchase at the Niceville Barnes & Noble College Bookstore beginning March 12 - April 16.

A late fee will be added to purchases made after April 16.

A Grad Fair will be held April 5 and 6.

- 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, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday.....7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Extra tassels are available for purchase.
- Borrowed regalia is not permitted.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COLLEGE RINGS

- Vendors will be on site for assistance with ordering Announcements and College Rings. For more information please contact the Barnes and Noble College Bookstore at (850) 729-5384.
- Celebrate your success! Order your commencement announcements, diploma frames, college rings and more online at <http://cbgrad.balfour.com> or call 1-800-433-0296.

PHOTOGRAPHS

- Professional photos will be taken of each grad 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.**

HONOR STUDENTS

- Gold Cords (Summa Cum Laude & Highest Honors) 4.0 GPA.
- Silver Cords (Magna Cum Laude & High Honors) 3.80-3.99 GPA.
- Red Cords (Cum Laude & Honors) 3.50-3.79 GPA.
- Red, White, & Blue Cords – Active Duty or Veterans.
- Distributed after check-in at separate table.
- Designation in program and receipt of cords based upon cumulative GPA. Spring graduates – Fall GPA used since spring grades are not posted until after the ceremony.
- Questions? Contact the Registrar's Office at 850-729-4901.

PHI THETA KAPPA STOLES/TASSELS

PTK members who intend to graduate and wear the PTK stole and tassel must contact Ms. Donna Pierson prior to April 13, 2018 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.

College honor cords, baccalaureate stoles and PTK stoles/tassels are the only additions allowed to regalia. No PTK honor cords allowed.

PTK Sponsor: Ms. Donna Pierson E-mail: piersond@nwfsc.edu

ATTIRE/DRESS

Active duty military and veterans are permitted to wear their service dress uniform.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Suggested Dress for Women | Suggested Dress for Men |
| • Dark dresses, dark shoes | • Dark trousers, white shirts |
| • No high collars or bows at neck | • Dark shoes and socks |
| • No corsages or jewelry on robe | • Dark ties |

CONTACT PHONE NUMBERS

Student Success/Registrar850-729-4901
 Disability Support Services850-729-6079
 Barnes & Noble College Bookstore: Niceville850-729-5384

100 College Boulevard East, Niceville, FL 32578 | 850-678-5111 | www.nwfsc.edu

Northwest Florida State College is committed to equal access/equal opportunity in its programs, activities, and employment. For additional information, visit www.nwfsc.edu.

2018 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 at the Arena.
- **Only graduates will be permitted to enter the Check-In Area. Guests need to proceed directly to the Arena.**
- 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

- The Arena doors will open 45 minutes prior to the start of the ceremony for guests.
- No tickets are required. Seating is open, on a first-come-first served basis.
- Seating for guests with disabilities is available, again on a first-come-first-served basis. Contact Disability Support Services at 850-729-6075, if special accommodations are required.

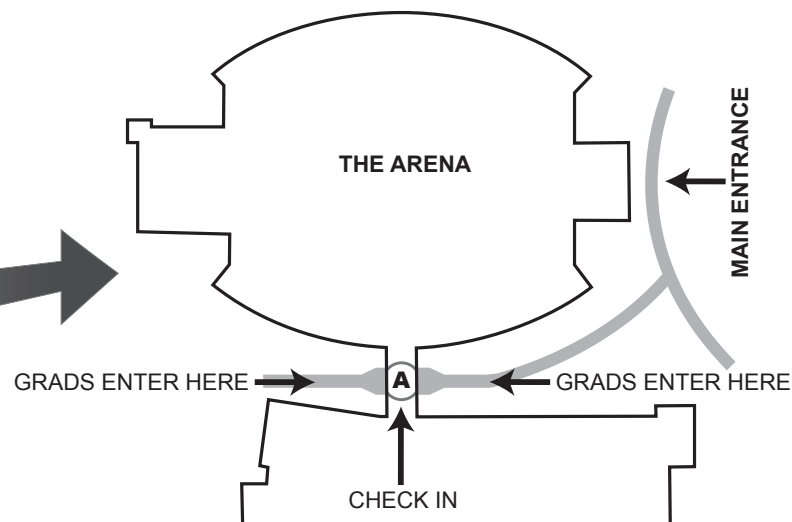
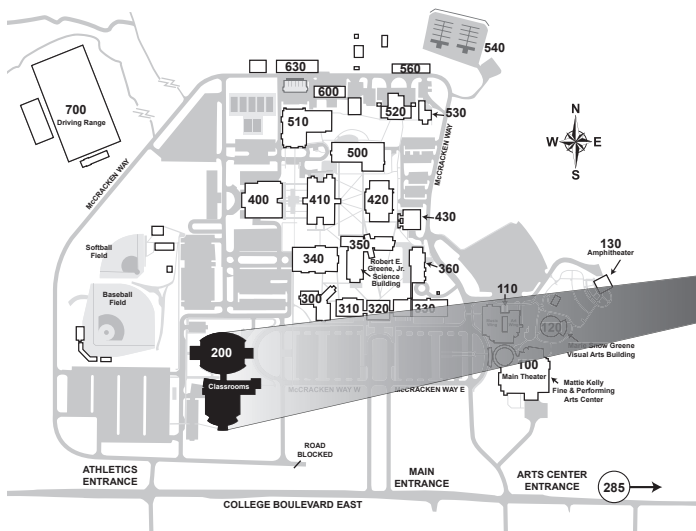
PARKING

- 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 the 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 the ceremony.
9:30 a.m. for the 10:00 a.m. ceremony and
1:30 p.m. for the 2:00 p.m. ceremony
- 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 the Arena.
- Entire audience (including graduates) remains standing until invocation is finished.
- Ceremony lasts one to one-and-a-half hours.
- Graduates must participate in the entire ceremony.
- Everyone stands for benediction and recessional.
- If it is necessary for guests to leave the Arena, please do so as quietly as possible so as not to disturb other families whose graduate has not yet been recognized.
- The College is holding two ceremonies on May 5, 2018, so we ask guests and students attending the 10:00 a.m. ceremony to exit the Arena area and parking lots in a **timely** fashion to allow for arrival of the guests and students attending the 2:00 p.m. ceremony.

THE 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.



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