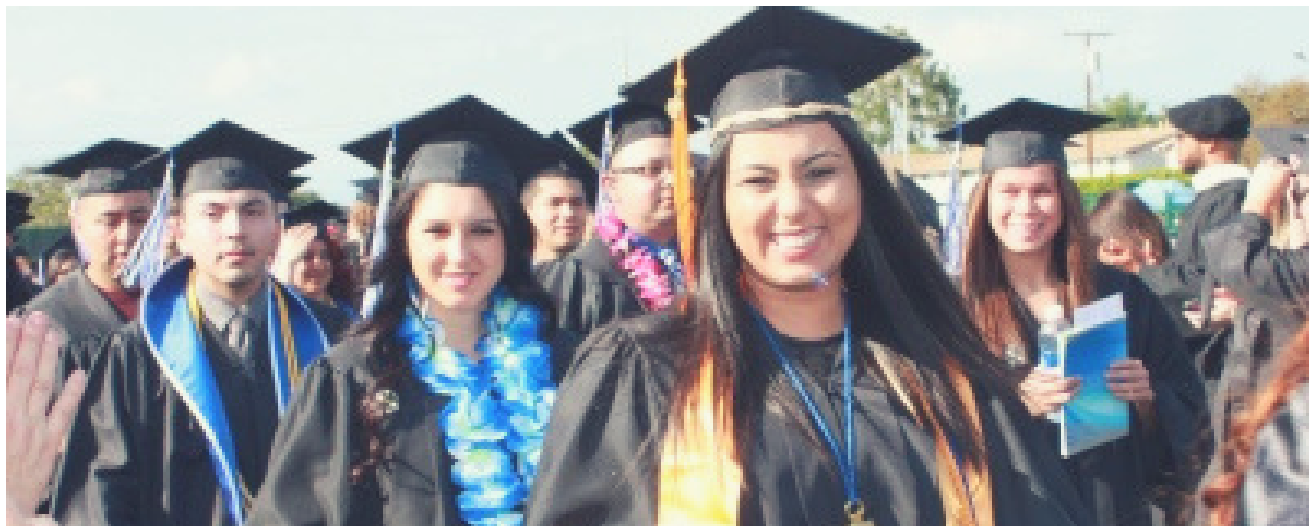


MAY 24, 2019

COMMENCEMENT

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR CERRITOS COLLEGE GRADUATES



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Calling All Graduates!

Congratulations to our 2019 graduates!

The Cerritos College Commencement has been a hallmark event for all community members for over 60 years. The commencement ceremony celebrates our graduates who have developed invaluable knowledge, skills, and values that prepare them to be productive participants in the global community.

On May 24, 2019 we will welcome the thousands of guests, faculty, and staff to honor our graduates and continue this tradition.

April 30 & May 1
**GRAD
FAIR**

10 am to 2 pm
at the Bookstore



A Letter from the President

Dr. Jose Fierro

Dear Cerritos College Student:

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, faculty, staff, and administration of Cerritos College, I want to congratulate you on reaching a milestone in your academic career. We invite you to take part in the Sixtieth Annual Commencement Ceremony scheduled for Friday, May 24, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the Cerritos College Falcon Stadium.

Your participation in the Commencement Ceremony is very important. The entire Cerritos College community will recognize your academic achievements and celebrate with you and your family.

Please review the Commencement Information for important details about the graduation ceremony and key information for your guests. Our commencement ceremony starts promptly at 6:00 p.m. with the graduate procession beginning at 5:30 pm. The gates will open at 4:30 p.m. and the ceremony usually concludes by 9:00 p.m. Graduates are expected to stay for the entire ceremony.

For more information regarding the Commencement Ceremony, visit the Student Activities Office or call (562) 860-2451, extension. 2458.

Once again Congratulations! I look forward to seeing you and your supporters on May 24!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jose Fierro', written in a cursive style.

Jose Fierro, D.V.M., Ph.D.
President/Superintendent

Graduate Information

GRAD FAIR 2019

What: Grad Fair

When: April 30 & May 1

Time: 10 AM- 2 PM

Location: Cerritos College Bookstore

What can I expect from the Grad Fair?

- Graduates can try on and purchase their regalia (cap & gown).
- Pick up your guest tickets. Limit 8 tickets per graduate. Please see details below.
- Grad Images will be on-site to take your graduate portrait. *Our very own Cosmetology dept. will also be on-site to provide hair & make up services to graduates at no cost.*
- Jostens will be in attendance to offer a wide variety of Cerritos College gifts for graduates, including: announcements, diploma frames and class rings.
- Join the Cerritos College Alumni Association.

Can I still participate and walk in the ceremony if I do not attend the Grad Fair? Yes.

TICKETS & DISTRIBUTION

This year each of your guests will need a ticket to attend the commencement ceremony. Every guest entering through the gate will need a ticket. Strollers and car seats are not permitted in the stadium, children under the age of 2 do not need a ticket and must sit on a lap. Children must be attended to at all times.

Is there a cost for tickets? No-this event is free.

Ticket Distribution:

Note: A photo ID is required to pick up guest tickets.

April 30 & May 1 at the Grad Fair-Ticket distribution **ONLY** for those graduates who have successfully filed a petition to graduate with Admissions & Records, by the March 29 deadline.

Graduates may request up to 8 tickets for their guests, while supplies last.

If you did not file a petition with Admissions and Records before their deadlines, and you wish to participate in the Commencement ceremony, please visit the Student Activities office beginning May 6 to inquire about ticket availability. Graduates who did not file a petition to graduate are limited to 8 tickets, only if available. Photo ID required to pick up tickets.

Graduate Information

GRADUATE DRESS CODE & REGALIA

Where can I purchase the commencement cap and gown?

Graduates may purchase their cap & gown in the Bookstore beginning with the Grad Fair on April 30 & May 1, and up until May 24.

How much will regalia cost for students?

\$40.00 plus tax. Price includes cap, gown and tassel.

Can I wear a borrowed gown ?

Yes, as long as it matches the black gowns that are sold at the bookstore.

Is there a dress code for the graduates?

Aside from properly wearing your cap and gown during all times of the ceremony, there is no official Commencement dress code. However, we want to remind you to dress comfortably and wear proper footwear. For your safety, graduates are strongly urged not to wear high heels because the turf in the field is artificial and may cause a tripping hazard. Wedge heels and flats work best.

Can a graduate decorate their caps for the ceremony?

Yes, graduates are allowed to decorate their caps for the ceremony. Please keep in mind that the Cerritos College Standard of Conduct does apply to the graduation ceremony.

Are graduates allowed to wear medals or sashes?

If the graduate earned the medal, sash and/or cord during the time they attended Cerritos College (for example Phi Theta Kappa and Scholars Honors Program graduates) they are encouraged to wear those items.

How are Honors students identified?

Honors graduates who achieved a GPA of 3.3 to 3.69 will graduate with "Honors." Those graduating with a GPA of 3.7 or higher will graduate with "Highest Honors". Honors graduates will be given a gold cord when they purchase their cap and gown from the bookstore. The bookstore staff will receive the list of Honors graduates by the Grad Fair. *A Cerritos College student ID is required to pick up Honors cords.*

Graduate Information

COMMENCEMENT DAY LOGISTICS

Graduate procession into the stadium begins at 5:30 pm.

The ceremony will begin promptly at 6 pm.

Graduate arrival time & location:

4:00 pm at the gym (no guests allowed in the gym).

Graduate Parking: Graduates are encouraged to park in Lot 1, in front of the gym and tennis courts.

DO NOT Be Late. Plan To Arrive Early:

Graduates are encouraged to plan ahead for traffic and other last minute issues that may arise. We encourage all to plan to arrive one hour early. *Graduates who arrive after 5:00 PM WILL NOT be allowed to participate in the ceremony.* Please have your regalia on before entering the gym.

DO NOT bring any personal items to the ceremony:

Cerritos College will not be responsible for any personal items (e.g. purses, bags, coats).

At The Gym:

Graduates will receive instructions from Cerritos College staff regarding name cards, reading of the names, line formation, seating, where you will meet your guests, procession in and out of ceremony, and other related items.

Recognition of Degree Candidates:

Each graduate will be recognized individually on stage.

How will the person announcing the graduates' names know the graduate is graduating with honors or highest honors?

At the gym, graduates will be asked to take a card to write their name on for the commencement readers to announce. Graduates will receive the appropriate card that reflects the GPA they have achieved.

Will there be a photographer at the ceremony?

Graduates have the option to take pictures in the gym before the ceremony. Photographers will be ready to start taking pictures at 4PM. There will also be a photographer taking pictures of each graduate with the College President/Superintendent or the College Board President when the graduate crosses the stage. All pictures are taken through Grad Images.

Estimated ending time:

8:30 PM. Graduates are expected to stay the entire ceremony, and process off of the field together. Those who participate in the entire ceremony will receive a diploma cover.

Graduate Information

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

What else do the graduates need to know about the ceremony?

Graduates must meet at the gym no later than 5:00 PM. Graduates that arrive after 5:00 PM WILL NOT be allowed to participate in the ceremony.

Is there another ceremony other than the college commencement ceremony for the graduates?

Each department may have their own celebration for the graduates. Please check with the department that you are earning your degree from to find out details.

Where can graduates meet with their families after the ceremony?

Plan in advance where you want to meet your family afterwards. Students are escorted out of the stadium following the ceremony, so it can get hectic if families can't find their graduates as they leave the field. Suggest a specific meeting spot beforehand so that you can reunite easily.

Diplomas

Actual diplomas are not issued at the commencement ceremony -- only the covers. When their certificate or diploma arrives, Admissions and Records will notify the graduate to pick it up from the Admissions and Records office. Please make sure you have the correct contact information on file with the college.

Diploma Covers

As a recognition of your accomplishments and participation in the ceremony, graduates who participate in the entire Commencement Ceremony will receive a free diploma cover immediately after the ceremony. If you do not participate in Commencement, or you leave the ceremony before the ending procession off the field, you are able to purchase a diploma cover at the Cerritos College Bookstore.

Diplomas Held

Please note that if you have an outstanding obligation to the college, this will prevent Cerritos College from releasing your diploma when it becomes available.

Guest Information

Guests who wish to watch their graduate enter into the stadium must arrive and be seated by the 5:30 pm procession start time.

The ceremony begins promptly at 6 pm, after the graduates have been seated.

Do the guests need a ticket to enter the Commencement ceremony?

YES! Each guest needs a ticket. Graduates are responsible for picking up guest tickets for the event. Tickets will be available to pick up at the bookstore Grad Fair on April 30 & May 1, from 10 am to 2 pm. After the Grad Fair tickets can be picked up in the Student Activities office. **Tickets are general admission, and free of any cost.**

How many guests can a graduate bring? Graduates may bring up to 8 guests.

Bags will be searched by campus police at the entrance of the stadium. The following will not be allowed in Falcon Stadium:

- strollers
- large signs
- confetti
- smoking/vaping
- balloons
- noisemakers
- alcohol
- drugs

Due to limited seating, "seat-saving" will not be permitted. Please encourage all your guests to arrive together if they plan on sitting together.

Please be considerate & respectful of graduates and guests: Do not block or stand in anyone's view during the ceremony. Please keep all aisles/stairways clear and do not stand at the rails. To ensure the safety of children and others, children must be attended to at all times.

Commencement is a joyous celebration for all and we ask that graduates and guests stay through the entire ceremony. Leaving early not only disrupts the ceremony, but it is distracting to graduating students.

STUDENTS & GUESTS WITH DISABILITIES

Where can students and guests with disabilities, park?

Students and guests with a DMV approved placard can park in the parking lot 1, in front of the stadium.

Wheelchair/Power-Scooter Guests:

In addition to general wheelchair seating in the grandstand, wheelchair/power-scooter users and one attendant may opt to be seated on the track the day of the event, if available. Field level wheelchair/power-scooter seating is available on the home side of the stadium only. *Disability seating is available on a first-come-first-serve basis.*

For any other accommodation requests or for more information on accommodations contact the *Disabled Students Programs and Services (DSP&S)* a minimum of two weeks prior to commencement ceremony. Contact (562) 860-2451, extension 2335; (562) 274-7164 (VP).

Guest Information

PARKING & DIRECTIONS

Falcon Stadium is located on the south side of Alondra Boulevard. For directions to our campus, go to the website www.cerritos.edu and search 'campus map'. *Visit our campus parking regulations page for more details.*

Directions to Campus

From Downtown Los Angeles:

Take I-5 South to I-605 South, exit I-605 at Alondra Blvd, turn left on Alondra Blvd, take Alondra Blvd East. The college will be on the right just past Studebaker Road.

From Los Angeles International Airport (LAX):

Take I-105 East to I-605 South, exit I-605 at Alondra Blvd, turn left on Alondra Blvd, take Alondra Blvd East.

From John Wayne Airport (Orange County):

Take I-405 North to I-605 North, exit I-605 at Alondra Blvd, turn right on Alondra Blvd, take Alondra Blvd East.

Long Beach Transit routes:

Route #172, 173, 174: PCH - Palo Verde / Studebaker / Ximeno

TIP: The streets surrounding the campus will be heavily congested with traffic. To avoid this traffic and parking lot congestion, we encourage guests to arrive early and park in lot 10, which is easily accessed through 166th street.

Ride-share and Passenger Drop-Off & Pick-Up located in Parking Lot 10, off Old Falcon Way. Enter campus from 166th Street. Due to heavy traffic, drop off is not allowed in front of the stadium and gym.

