



March 31, 2017

Dear Prospective Graduates:

CONGRATULATIONS!!! We are proud of each of you and know that you will represent Dalton State well as you pursue your career and educational goals. Listed below is the calendar of events and important information concerning your graduation ceremony:

Friday, May 12, 2017

8:15 a.m. Check in for practice on the lower level of the Dalton Convention Center between 8:15 a.m. and 8:45 a.m.

Graduation practice: The dress is casual for practice. Attendance is mandatory for those planning to participate in the graduation ceremony.

5:00 p.m. Practice for RN Pinning ceremony at the Dalton Convention Center Lower Level

7:00 p.m. RN Pinning ceremony at the Dalton Convention Center Lower Level

Saturday, May 13, 2017

9:00 a.m. Arrive at the Dalton Convention Center

9:15 a.m. Graduation line-up begins

10:00 a.m. Graduation: Please note there will be an area reserved in front of the stage for family and friends to take pictures.

Issues:

Please make sure you check your **myDaltonState** account often to ensure that you do not have a hold on your account. A hold could prevent you from graduating.

Your Diploma:

If you participate, you will receive your diploma during the ceremony. If not, please come by the Office of Enrollment Services anytime on or after May 30, 2017 (8:00 am to 6:00 pm – Monday through Thursday). Diplomas not picked up by June 22, 2017, will be mailed to the address we have on your record in Enrollment Services. If your address is not correct, please submit an information update form to the Office of Enrollment Services to update your mailing address.

<https://www.daltonstate.edu/skins/userfiles/files/UpdateFormforALL.pdf>

Graduation Practice:

If you plan to participate in your graduation, you must attend the **mandatory practice** session at the Dalton Convention Center on Friday, May 12, 2017. Check-in is from 8:15 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. Practice is typically over around 12:00 p.m. You will need to be back at the Dalton Convention Center on Saturday morning at 9:00 a.m. Graduation line-up begins at 9:15 a.m. (The doors will open at 8:30 a.m.) Again, practice is mandatory if you wish to participate in the ceremony.

Tickets:

Each graduate may pick up a maximum of six guest tickets from Monday, April 3, 2017, through Friday, April 14, 2017, (M-TH 9am – 6 pm, F 9 am – 12 pm) in the Office of Enrollment Services. This is the only timeframe during which you will have guaranteed access to the six allotted tickets. You will be notified via email on or before April 17, 2017, of the availability of any allotted tickets that were not picked up. Additional tickets cannot be guaranteed. Please plan accordingly. If you have extra tickets that you do not need, please return them to the Office of Enrollment Services.

Guests:

Tickets will be required for all guests over the age of two who wish to enter the arena. The doors will open at 8:30 a.m. Advise your guests to arrive early. There will be no entry to the arena once the ceremony procession starts. There will be an overflow room with a video feed available on the upper level of the Dalton Convention Center for guests who are late or without tickets.

Streaming:

Graduation will be streamed live at wdnn.tv at 10:00 a.m.

Parking:

In addition to the parking available at the Dalton Convention Center, we will be providing shuttle service beginning at 8:30 a.m. from the parking lot behind the Pope Student Center. Please encourage your guests to arrive early enough to allow time to park and ride the shuttle. The Dalton Convention Center parking lots usually are full by 9:30 a.m.

Graduation Pictures:

An area will be reserved during the ceremony for family and friends to take photos and video. Please convey to your family and friends to use this designated area during the ceremony. A professional photographer will also be taking photographs, including a photo of you receiving your diploma. Information sheets will be distributed at graduation practice on how to purchase photographs.

Cap & Gowns:

The May 2017 graduating class will be adorning navy blue caps and gowns with silver tassels! Graduation regalia must be picked up from the bookstore no later than noon on Monday, May 8th. (The deadline to order cap and gowns from the bookstore was March 1st.) If you have questions, please call the bookstore at 706-272-4548.

Academic Regalia:

Commencement is an occasion marking a special time in a student's academic career. Appropriate attire for the occasion is a navy blue academic gown and mortarboard with no personal accessories or

messages. When you pick up your cap and gown, please hang the gown so the wrinkles will fall out. Students who choose to decorate their mortarboards should make sure decorations are flat and do not stand up above the mortarboard. Student members of academic honor societies may wear the insignia or honor cord of that honor society. Pins from social fraternities and sororities may be worn on the baccalaureate stole. All graduates participating in the ceremony must wear their academic regalia.

Honor Cords:

If you have an institutional GPA of 3.5 or above, you will receive an honor cord to wear during the graduation ceremony. These will be given out at practice.

Military/Veterans:

If you are a veteran or in the military and have indicated this on your graduation application, you will receive a special recognition cord at practice to wear during the graduation ceremony.

International Endorsement:

If you have completed the International Endorsement (IE) program, you will receive a special recognition cord at practice to wear during the graduation ceremony.

Graduation is a ceremony to celebrate the completion of your program of study here at Dalton State. We hold graduation in honor of you and your accomplishment.

Congratulations,

Rob Wingfield
Registrar
706-272-4546