



Spring 2017 Commencement
May 19, 2017
Bonne Santé Wellness Center - 10:00 A.M.

Ceremony

Graduates

Spring 2017 Commencement will be held in the Bonne Santé Wellness Center on the Mid City Campus on **Friday, May 19, 2017 at 10:00 A.M.** Graduates should arrive promptly at **8:00 A.M.** dressed in cap and gown. Personal items such as purses and cell phones are not allowed in the arena, and should be left with a family member or in a locked vehicle. Staff members will be available to direct graduates to the appropriate line-up area. The entire ceremony is expected to last one hour. Diplomas will be distributed immediately following the ceremony. Please note that all academic requirements and financial obligations must be satisfied to participate in the ceremony. ***Name recognition in the commencement program does not guarantee degree completion.***

Family and Friends

Family and friends will not be permitted to enter the graduates' assembly area. Staff members will be available to direct family and friends to seating areas. All guests **must** be seated before the doors close at 9:45 A.M., as they will not be opened while the academic procession is in progress.

Rehearsal

All graduates **must** attend rehearsal. Commencement Rehearsal will be held on **Thursday, May 18, 2017 at 10:00 A.M.**, in the Bonne Santé Wellness Center and should last approximately 2 hours. Honor cords, photography information, and other pertinent information will be distributed on this day. Regalia are not required for rehearsal.

Ceremony Etiquette

You have achieved a significant milestone that warrants excitement and we want you to enjoy your day. Please remember, however, that this is an academic ceremony of dignity. Families are encouraged to applaud graduates as they receive diplomas. Your enthusiasm and excitement is warranted; however, the use of air horns or other artificial noisemakers is not permissible. **BALLOONS, POSTERS, AIR HORNS OR OTHER PARTY MATERIAL WILL NOT BE ALLOWED IN THE ARENA.**

Ceremony Attire

All graduates will wear regalia. Female graduates will also wear the detachable white collar provided with the gown. If your gown is wrinkled, it is suggested that you steam your gown the day before the ceremony. We suggest that you wear an appropriate seasonal outfit, keeping in mind the weather and that the gowns can be quite warm. Suggested attire includes:

Gentlemen

- Dress shirt (preferably, with a white collar)
- Dark Pants
- Dark dress boots or shoes

Ladies

- Dark dress
- Dark shoes (please be mindful of heel height as you will stand for periods of time and navigate steps)

We suggest ladies bring safety pins to secure the detachable collar and bobby pins to secure your cap.

Unacceptable Attire:

Jeans, tennis shoes, work boots, flip flops and shorts are inappropriate attire for the ceremony.

The appropriate cap for graduates is the familiar black "mortarboard." The mortarboard is worn straight on the head with the point of the cap in the center of the forehead. The tassel should hang to the left of the face.

Caps and Gown

Beginning April 6, 2017, orders to purchase caps and gowns can be placed in the BRCC Bookstore, located on the Mid City Campus. The cost is \$34.87. **Please note that the cost is NON-REFUNDABLE and regalia is NON-RETURNABLE.**

Academic Honors**

Honor designations are determined by the cumulative grade point average of all work completed as of spring 2017. Honor cords will be distributed at Commencement Rehearsal. Honors are recognized as follows:

Designation

- Chancellor's Honors Scholar -- 3.85 - 4.00, Gold Cord
- Dean's Honors List -- 3.50 - 3.84, Red Cord
- Honor's -- 3.00 - 3.49, White Cord

***Reminder: Developmental and English as a Second Language courses are not included in the calculation of grade point averages.*

Diploma/Degree Inscription

Diplomas are inscribed with the College name, degree title, graduate's name, and date of award. Your name will appear on your degree/diploma as it appears in LoLA. **Name corrections must be done by March 1, 2017.**

Pictures

Candid Campus Photography will take pictures of each graduate with the Chancellor as he or she crosses the stage. You may order pictures directly from the photographer. Make sure you complete the information form at Graduation Rehearsal. Specific details will be provided in the packet that will be distributed at rehearsal.

Disability Assistance

BRCC will provide interpreter service for the ceremony. To assist us in providing arrangements for graduates or guests of graduates with special needs, please contact the Director of Disability Services, Wendy Devall at 225.216.8503 by Friday, May 5, 2017.

Recessional

- After the platform party and faculty have exited the platform, the Graduate Marshal will approach the first row to signal when graduates should begin the recessional. Each row will follow the preceding row.
- Graduates should return to the assigned robing area to be dismissed for diploma distribution.

Diploma Distribution

- Students will immediately pick up diplomas in the assigned robing area.
 - Summer and Fall graduates who have already received their diploma will return to the assigned robing area to be dismissed when instructed by staff.

CONGRATULATIONS! Remember, this is your day. You have earned it and have fun! We hope that you and your guests will enjoy your graduation ceremony. We wish you every success in the future.

NOTE

Students must successfully complete **ALL** classes toward their respective degree for academic requirements including the payment of **ALL** money owed to the College by the end of the spring 2016 semester to participate in the Commencement ceremony, receive an official transcript, or be issued a diploma.

Any questions regarding graduation should be directed to Ms. Carlesia Bibbins at brccgraduation@mybrcc.edu or (225) 216-8677.