

Graduation Information–May 2023

Congratulations

Dear students, congratulations on meeting this milestone of applying for graduation. Once your academic, financial, and other records are reviewed and approved, you will be confirmed as graduates during the May 2023 Commencement Convocation. You have worked hard and deserve this recognition for your academic success at South Carolina State University. We are proud of your accomplishments!

Masks

Masks will be encouraged for all attendees and participants.

Commencement Date and Ceremony

SC State will host the 2023 Spring Commencement Ceremony on Friday, May 12, 2023, at 7:00PM at SHM Gymnasium.

Line-up

All prospective graduates **MUST** assemble in Staley Hall at 5:30PM on Friday, May 12, 2023, to receive your name card for the ceremony.

All Students

Students will not be eligible to participate in a Commencement Ceremony unless all degree requirements have been completed prior to participation. In addition, students will not be allowed to participate in Commencement if they have not submitted their graduation application forms to the Registrar's Office by the deadline listed on the University Calendar. Students who miss this deadline must apply for the next Commencement Ceremony.

Graduation Attire

Female graduates are asked to wear black dresses and Male graduates are asked to wear black slacks and white shirts with a dark tie underneath their caps and gowns.

Special Note: Only University Official caps, gowns, hoods, and other academic regalia accessories purchased through the University Bookstore are permitted at the Commencement Ceremony.

Ticket Information

Graduates will be given 10 tickets to a limited number of guests to enter SHM. Since everyone who may wish to attend the graduation ceremony may not be able to do so, the Commencement ceremony will be livestreamed. More information about how to view the ceremony online will be shared via email and on the university's website at www.scsu.edu.

Rehearsal and Honor Accessories

Commencement rehearsal will be Thursday, May 11, 2023, at 9 a.m. at SHM Gymnasium.

Honor accessories will be distributed immediately after rehearsal.

Graduation with Honors

AVERAGE

Summa Cum Laude 3.75 or above

Magna Cum Laude 3.50 - 3.74

Cum Laude 3.00 - 3.49

Attendance at Commencement

Attendance at the Ceremony is required of all candidates for degrees unless you have extenuating circumstances that will prevent you from participating in the ceremony.

Request to Graduate in Absentia

If you plan to graduate in May 2023 but will not be able to participate in the Commencement Ceremony, you must submit a letter or email requesting permission to graduate in absentia by Friday, April 28, 2023, to:

Mrs. Felicia L. McMillan
Registrar's Office
PO Box 8104
SC State University, Orangeburg, SC 29117 or
Email: Registrar@scsu.edu

Applications for Degrees

Applying for graduation is a university requirement for all undergraduates and graduate prospective students. The application must be filed in the term prior to the expected degree completion term. The date of graduation will be recorded for the term of completion.

Failure to clear for graduation will require the degree candidate to reapply for graduation and payment of another graduation fee for the next subsequent Commencement.

All applications for degrees must be submitted to the Registrar's Office no later than the date set forth in the University Academic Calendar. That deadline for May 2023 Commencement was February 10, 2023. Applications are now being accepted for the July 2023 graduation.

It is the responsibility of the student to do the following:

1. Students are responsible for the completion of their academic programs, based upon the requirements stated in the University Catalog.

Students must conduct a Curriculum, Advising, and Program Planning (CAPP) degree audit in the Apps Portal. Below are the steps to follow to track your degree requirements (Undergraduates Students Only).

- apps.scsu.edu
 - [Student Profile](#)
 - [Degree Evaluation](#)
2. Schedule an appointment with your advisor to review all degree requirements. The advisor is available to counsel, but the responsibility to ensure all degree completion remains with the student.
 3. Complete an undergraduate or graduate application for graduation with your department.
 4. Pay the graduation fee in the Cashier's Office or online.
 5. Submit your graduation application with proof of payment to the Registrar's Office on or before the Graduation Fee Payment Deadline.

NOTE: An Application for Graduation is complete only after it has been submitted to the Registrar's Office, Second Floor, Moss Hall, Room 202 or emailed to Registrar@scsu.edu.

Diploma Pick-up

Diploma pick-up is scheduled for Friday, May 12, 2023, immediately following Commencement in Staley Hall. A photo identification is required and mask are encouraged.

If your application for graduation was submitted to the Office of the Registrar after Tuesday, March 2, 2023, your diploma is a late order and will not be available for pick-up. Therefore, once your diploma is received at the

University, it will be mailed to the address you have on file within 30 business days.

If your degree is not picked up immediately following Commencement, it will be mailed to your address on file within 30 business days.

Again, as a reminder, diploma pick-up will be immediately after Commencement in Staley Hall Auditorium.

A photo identification is required and mask are encouraged.

Alumni Weekend Activities

Alumni who may have questions regarding Alumni Weekend activities should contact Mrs. Iva Gardner at 839.356.0527 or 803-516-4616.

Disabilities

If you are experiencing a medical condition that will require special attention during the Commencement Ceremony, please contact Mrs. Sharon Heatley at (803) 536-8394 by Monday, April 29, 2023.