

DACC Commencement Instructions

May 21, 2021

Congratulations!

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Commencement will be Friday night, May 21, 2021, at 7:00 pm in the Mary Miller Gymnasium. Your guests should be seated prior to 6:45 p.m. Guests may park on the north side of the Technology Center.

Apparel: Caps and gowns are, of course, the “uniform of the day.” Caps should be placed so that the mortarboard is level, with the long point of the crown at the back. Tassels should be on the right until the Tassel Ceremony following the awarding of the diplomas and certificates. **Caps & Gowns do NOT need to be returned...** They are yours to keep. You will also be happy to know that they are made from 100% recycled materials.

Processional: Graduates will line up at 6:30 p.m. in front of the Mary Miller Gymnasium and Ornamental Horticulture buildings. In case of rain, line-up will be in the North corridor (near Tillman & Home Streets) of the Mary Miller Complex or in the South corridor by the animal habitats. Graduates will line up in alphabetical order by their last name. Board members will precede graduates in the processional. Student Marshals will lead the graduates into the gym. After marching into the gym, members of the processional will remain standing until instructed to be seated by Dr. Stephen Nacco, President of DACC.

Pledge to the Flag: On direction from the Summa Cum Laude candidate, Board Members, graduates, audience, etc., will rise. Men remove their caps for the Pledge.

Presentation of Candidates and Conferring of Degrees & Certificates: All candidates for an associate degree and/or certificate will rise for recognition to be given by the Dean of Business and Technology, Mr. Bruce Rape. Candidates will remain standing to accept conferring of the degree/certificate by President Nacco. All candidates will be seated after Dr. Nacco confers the degree.

Awarding of Diplomas/Certificates: The Summa Cum Laude candidates will be recognized and receive their diplomas first. Then, a row at a time, graduates will approach the platform, and alphabetically, one-at-a-time (as their names are called), cross the platform to receive their diploma cover. They will continue across the platform and return to their chairs and be seated in unison by row.

Response from Class: A Summa Cum Laude candidate will give the response. Graduates will remain seated.

Tassel Ceremony: After the class response, graduates will be asked to stand and change their tassels from the right to the left side of their caps. They will be seated in unison on direction.

Recessional: Student Marshals will lead the recessional, followed by others seated on the stage, followed by the graduates. The student route will be through the center door of the gym and into the west corridor. The faculty route will be through the southeast doorway into the east corridor.

Diplomas: During the Commencement ceremony, you will receive a diploma cover. The actual diploma will be sent to you approximately four weeks after final grades are turned in to the Records Office. Please make sure that the Records Office (217-443-8797) has your correct address. Also, please note your DACC transcript will reflect your degree and/or certificate approximately two weeks after the term ends.

Graduation Pictures: A photographer will be at the graduation ceremony and take your picture as you're walking off the stage with your diploma in hand.

DACC Degrees with Distinction

Degrees with distinction are based on two major qualifications: *1) the student must be a "degree" completer; certificate completers are not eligible and 2) the student's cumulative grade point average at the end of the Fall 2020 semester.* Graduation dress for students graduating with honors is as follows:

3.500 – 3.749	Cum Laude	Gold Tassel
3.750 – 3.999	Magna Cum Laude	Gold Tassel and Gold Cord
4.000*	Summa Cum Laude	Gold Tassel, Gold Cord, and Medallion

*Due to the "highest distinction," summa cum laude candidates' cumulative grade point averages are calculated using the grades earned at Danville Area Community College as well as any grades transferred in from another college that are used for degree completion.

Students' ability to be recognized at the graduation ceremony is based on the cumulative grade-point average calculated at the end of the fall semester prior to the spring ceremony. Transcript notations of *cum laude*, *magna cum laude*, and *summa cum laude* are based on the total grade-point average, including the final semester prior to graduation.

DACC would like to honor United States' veterans and those who are currently serving in one of the United States' armed forces with a red, white, and blue cord. Please notify the Records Office if you fall into one of these categories. We will distribute the cords at the ceremony practice on Friday morning (May 21st).

DACC also distinguishes graduates who have participated in the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society and the DACC Scholars Program. The gold stole represents membership in Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society, minimum G.P.A. 3.50. The white honors cord signifies successful completion of DACC Scholars Program requirements, minimum G.P.A. 3.50 and four independent study projects.

If you meet one of the requirements listed above, you will be given the additional honors at practice.

Tickets for 2021 Commencement Ceremony!

Due to Covid 19 and CDC restrictions, we are limited to 450 people total in our Mary Miller Gymnasium, so the guests are **strictly limited to 2 per graduate**. No extra lap children will be allowed, only 2 guests will be permitted per graduate. Tickets will be issued to graduates for their 2 guests and the tickets must be presented for admittance. You can pick up your **2 tickets for guests** at the Records Office in Vermilion Hall.

Live Streaming: The ceremony will be live streamed for any guests or family members who cannot attend but would like to watch it. There will be a link on our DACC.EDU website homepage. Then, after the ceremony is over, it will be posted to YouTube for viewing.